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IN MEMORY OF

CHARLES GROSS

GURNEY PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

NOTES ON BURTON IN WIRRAL

This edition is limited to 200 *copies*

BURTON VILLAGE

[illegible]ES

[illegible] OF

[illegible]TON [illegible]RAL

BY

F. C. [illegible]

ILLUSTRATED WITH SEVEN PLATES
AND NUMEROUS COATS OF ARMS
DRAWN BY GRAHAM JOHNSTON
HERALD PAINTER TO THE LYON COURT

LIVERPOOL
HENRY YOUNG & SONS
1908

o

NOTES
ON THE PARISH OF
BURTON IN WIRRAL

BY

F. C. BEAZLEY, F.S.A.

ILLUSTRATED WITH SEVEN PLATES
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LIST OF PLATES

Burton Village . . . . . *Frontispiece*

Burton Wood . . . . . *To face page* 7

'St. Nicholas' Church, Burton . . . „ „ 9

Sepulchral Cross Slab, Burton . . „ „ 11

Bishop Wilson's Birthplace, Burton . „ „ 29

Bishop Wilson's School, Burton . . „ „ 31

Bishop Wilson's Book-plate . . . „ „ 35

*** *The Coats of Arms are reproduced from Drawings by* Graham Johnston.

NOTES ON THE PARISH OF BURTON IN WIRRAL

FROM field names, old maps, notices in county histories, and the occurrence of patches of heather, and even little roots in pastures in different parts of the Hundred, one is led to the conclusion that the villages of Wirral were anciently small and more or less isolated communities, or little green cultivated oases in a setting of russet moorland and purple heather, backed in places by woods of firs or other trees, according to the nature of the soil.

In these days, when the problem of rapid and cheap transit is already partly solved, it is difficult for us to realise the isolation of village folk in very early times. In mediæval days road making and repairing fell upon the landowners and their tenants, and was looked upon as a pious and meritorious work before God: men saw in them a true charity for certain unfortunate people, namely, travellers. Indulgences were granted by the Church to road makers and bridge builders. The roads were mere tracks leading over the higher ground to avoid bogs.[1] As for the means of locomotion, though horse litters and covered waggons were sometimes used by royalty and the great nobles in very early times, and though a coach was built as early as 1555 for the Earl of Rutland, and Queen Elizabeth showed herself to her loving subjects through the

[1] "English Wayfaring Life in the Fourteenth Century," by J. J. Jusserand, 1901.

sliding panels of her royal coach, these clumsy vehicles did not come into general use until the early part of the seventeenth century, and travelling before and for long after that period must chiefly have been undertaken on horseback.

The squire of the time of William III. kept a family coach drawn by four or even six of his cart-horses, and the modern staves carried by footmen are the survival of the stout levers used by their rustic antecessors to hoist the wheels out of the quagmire.[1] The roads were execrable, even in the neighbourhood of London, well into the eighteenth century. Village folk, we may be sure, did not travel very far unless compelled.

It is in isolation such as this that we must think of the early days of Burton in Wirral. Lying as it did over a mile from the main road running between Chester and the northerly villages of Neston, Heswall, and West Kirby, it must have been secluded, and have come but little in contact with the stream of life constantly coming and going between Ireland and Chester, except for the period when it was itself a port and market or the occasional arrival of a vessel.

The parish of Burton, in the Hundred of Wirral, comprises the townships of Burton and Puddington, and the tithe map of 1843 gives the former as consisting of—

Arable land	448 acres
Meadows and pastures . .	868 „
Woodland	136 „
Marshland	400 „

making a total of 1852 acres for the township. The large acreage of marshland is accounted for by the fact that the parish boundary runs out into lands reclaimed from the estuary of the Dee.

[1] "Old Times Re-visited," by Charles T. King, 1900, p. 96.

The acreage of Puddington township is given as—

Arable land . . .	about	315	acres
Meadow or pasture . .	„	853	„
Houses, homesteads, &c. .	„	24	„
Woodland and plantations .	„	45	„

making a total for the township of 1237 acres, and for the parish of 3089 acres.

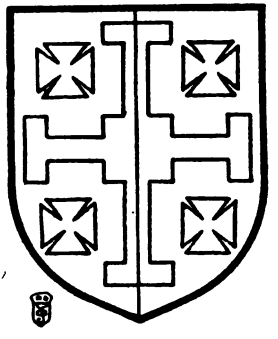
Much of the parish must formerly have been heath, as we shall presently see. The two townships lie on a slope looking over the broad estuary of the Dee towards the slopes and peaks of the Welsh mountains, and the picturesque village of Burton, consisting of a long street with its old houses of warm red brick and red sandstone and quaint rock-perched cottages, some of them half-timbered and thatched, a hall and church, nestles beneath a wooded hill, and under the policy of successive squires defying the greed of the jerry-builder, still retains its charming old-world appearance. It is a favourite resort both for the cyclist and pedestrian in the summer time, and some few notes as to its past may therefore be of interest to those who realise that the dim past is but made of many presents; that the old houses were once being planned and built, and doubtless were house-warmed with many a jest; that into that old church many a glad and many a heavy heart has passed; in short, that differ as our times may from theirs, our forefathers, after all, had the same joys, sorrows, and ambitions as ourselves.

Burton, it is stated by Sulley, is not mentioned in Domesday, but there is good reason to believe that it was included in Bishop's Burton, which with *Potitone* [Puddington] was included in the Hundred of Risedon.[1]

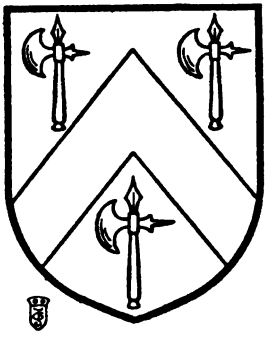
[1] "Cheshire in Domesday Book," by J. Brownbill, *Trans. Hist. Soc. Lancashire and Cheshire*, li. 17.

The Manor

The manor of Burton from very early times belonged to the Bishopric of Lichfield and Coventry, and enjoyed several immunities from the harsh customs of forest jurisdiction. Amongst others, the tenants of the manor were exempt from the custom of having the feet of their dogs cut (*expeditatos*), which all others who lived within the



SEE OF LICHFIELD



CONGREVE OF CONGREVE AND BURTON

circuit of the forest were compelled to observe until they could pass through the master-forester's dog-gauge.

In 1806 it was purchased by Richard Congreve, Esquire. The Congreves are a Staffordshire family of high antiquity.[1] They bear, Sable, a chevron between three battle-axes Argent, and for a crest, a falcon with wings expanded proper.[2]

[1] Ormerod, ii. 554.

[2] In the Heralds' Visitation of Staffordshire, made in 1583 by Glover, "Somerset," the name of Franciscus Congreve de Stretton, gen., is included in the list of those to be summoned, a trick of his arms being set against his name: * this summons he apparently neglected, but does not seem to have been disclaimed.† In the subsequent Visitations of

* William Salt, *Archæological Society*, vol. iii.

† "List of Persons Disclaimed," &c., by J. Paul Rylands, F.S.A.

BURTON WOOD

In 1902 the manor was purchased by Henry Neville Gladstone, Esq., third son of the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. The Gladstone family bear, with differences, Argent, a savage's head affrontée guttée-de-sang, wreathed about the temples with holly proper, within an orle fleury Gules, all within eight martlets in orle Sable Mr. Gladstone has rebuilt the hall,[1] besides

GLADSTONE

effecting other improvements in the village, and has come to an amicable arrangement whereby the enjoyment of the woods by the public is fully ensured. The Hundred boasts no prettier spot, and in the spring, when the wild hyacinths are in bloom and the birds in full song, one is irresistibly reminded of Scott's couplet—

> "Merry it is in the good green wood,
> When the mavis and merle are singing." [2]

1614 and 1663–4 the arms were duly entered: quartering, 2 and 3, Argent, a chevron engrailed between three mullets pierced Sable [for Champion or Stretton?] and bearing in pretence the arms of Fitzherbert, viz. Argent, a chief vaire Or and Gules, over all a bend Sable.*

[1] A drawing and plan appeared in *The Builders' Journal* of 25th May 1904.

[2] *Lady of the Lake*, Canto iv. 12.

* William Salt, *Archæological Society*, vol. v. p. 93.

In the middle of one of the paths in the wood are two gravestones, popularly known as the Quaker graves. Of the inscriptions, one is entirely gone; the other, which is much obliterated, is given in the Owen MSS. (19,212) at Manchester as, "THE BODY OF ELL . . . 1663,"[1] and this version is supported by Mr. Irvine, who copied it twenty years ago. At the present time the word BODY looks more like QKR. When last I saw these two stones, some kindly hand had placed a bunch of wild hyacinths on either of these rude memorials.

Dedication of the Church

The church is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and other dedications to this saint in the old Archdeaconry of Chester are the chapels at Chester, Nantwich, Liverpool, and Newchurch in Rossendale.

Saint Nicholas, the patron saint of mariners, pawnbrokers, and children, and probably the most popular saint in Christendom, was born at Patara, in Asia Minor. That he was Bishop of Myra in the fourth century is all that we really know for certain of him, but legend has abundantly made up for the deficiency. We have the legend of his bestowing three bags of gold in charity, which have become converted into the three golden balls of the pawnbroker; of his miraculous interventions in favour of mariners, and of three men condemned to death and imprisoned in a tower; by degrees the tower was cut down and the men became converted into three naked children, and this in its turn gave rise to a fresh legend. Saint Nicholas is represented in art with three children in a pickle tub, or with three golden balls or purses at his side.[2] These purses are carved on the oak lectern now in the church.

[1] Information kindly supplied by E. Axon, Esq.

[2] "The Lives of the Saints," by the Rev. S. Baring-Gould, M.A., December, p. 4.

ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH, BURTON

The dedication may appear strange to us now, but Burton was a port of embarkation for Ireland as early as 1399,[1] and had also an extensive salmon fishery.[2]

In 1398–9 Richard de Wynynton, Knt., with John de Mascy of Tatton, Knt., and others was appointed to go to Ireland in the train of Richard II. with eighty archers, and commissioned in 1399 to chose eighty of the best archers, between the ages of sixteen and sixty, in the Hundred of Northwich, and to have them on the roadside outside the Watergate of the City of Chester on the morrow of the Ascension of Our Lord, in that year, for inspection by the King's officers, and then to conduct them to Burton in Wirral and Denwall, for shipment for Ireland, on the eve of Pentecost following.[3] We see in the Registers entries regarding passengers from Ireland in comparatively modern times.

The Church

The church stands on a plateau under the fir-crowned summit of the hill, while below it lies the village, the smoke from the houses and cottages setting the chimneys and gables in a faint blue haze. Of the original structure, at least as old as 1380, very little is left. It had already begun to need repairs in 1554, for in the Visitation of Bishop Cotes, made in that year, we read—[4]

"Burton" [Presentment] "Against the churchwardens there; the chaunsell wants reparacion, they want an amisse and a sirplis, the which they toke to amende bie the Assumption of or [our] Ladie. The churchwardens have emended their fawtis and the Chaunsell is in makyng." And in the Visitation of 1557—

"Against the Wardens there the church and churchyard need repair. [Later] They are repaired."

---

[1] Ormerod, ii. 554.
[2] *Cheshire Sheaf*, I., S. iii. 176.
[3] Ormerod, ii. 202.
[4] *Cheshire Sheaf*, III., S. i. 3.

A document, drawn up between 1704 and 1709, made use of by Bishop Gastrell in his *Notitia Cestriensis*, refers to the church as follows :—

Burton, a Parish Church belonging to ye Mr. of ye hospital at Litchfield, and supply'd by Mr. Bainbridg, for which he is allow'd £30. The whole revenue in tyths and glebe is about 160 *li.* per ann., of which according to information ye summ of 13 marks onely is due to yt hospital.[1]

In 1720 the church became ruinous, and in the Gough MSS. (Steel's collection), in the Bodleian Library, an extract from a Brief, dated 9th January 1720, 6 Geo. I., gives the following account of its deplorable condition at that time :—

"Some years since the upper part of the Steeple of the Parish Church of Burton was taken down, and the Bells taken out the better to preserve the same; yet by reason of its great Antiquity the said Church is now become so ruinous, that it gives way outwards from one end of ye Church to the other; and the Arch between the Church and Chancel is so rent that the walls will not support itt: the Steeple also is crack'd in several Places from top to bottom, and all the four sides of it so shatter'd that some of the stones are ready to fall out." [2]

It was accordingly rebuilt, and now comprises a square embattled tower, nave, chancel, and north aisle, the rebuilding being commemorated by an inscription over the door of the porch, outside—

John Gregory, John Pickance, Thomas Barrow, John Robinson, Trustees 1721 | John Morfitt, Mason, William Cross, Carpenter. |

Upon entering the church one is faced by a beautifully executed sepulchral cross slab of a stone unknown in the neighbourhood, which has been let into the wall inside the tower.

Grave slabs with trade symbols, and generally with a cross, were in use at the dawn of the Christian era; early examples dating from about A.D. 500 are

[1] *Wirral Notes and Queries*, ii. 15.
[2] *Cheshire Sheaf*, I., S. iii. 171.

SEPULCHRAL CROSS SLAB,
BURTON

to be found in Ireland, and from the eleventh century in England.[1] The slab under consideration is probably as late as about 1300.

Inscriptions in the Church

On the west wall is a rude slate slab, on which is roughly cut—

NATHANIEL WILSON
MAY 29 1700[2]
ALICE WILSON
HAD ISSUE

SAMVEL	JAMES
IOSEPH	SARAH
BENIAMIN	THOMAS
BP OF MAN	MARY.

At the bottom of a window of three lights in the northern part of west wall—

In memory of | Anna Selina wife of | W. W. Congreve | died March 26, 1859. |

At the west end of north wall hangs a lozenge-shaped hatchment, ground all Sable, esquire's helm and mantlet, a cherub on either upper corner of shield, winged skull below. Arms: Sable, a chevron between three battle-axes, Argent [*Congreve*]; impaling — Azure, three fleur-de-lys and a canton Argent [*Birch*]. Crest: A falcon with wings expanded proper.

On the same wall, a white marble tablet—

In | memory of | Richard Congreve Esq.r | of | Congreve and Burton died Nov.r 22d., 1857. |

---

[1] "A Short History of Sepulchral Cross Slabs," by K. E. Styan. Bemrose & Sons, London, 1902.

[2] Not 1702, as in Ormerod. The Register, however, shows that this was really the correct year.

On the same wall, a white marble tablet, weeping child at base—

To the Memory | of | Mary Ann | daughter of George Birch of Hamstead in the County of Stafford, Esquire | wife of Richard Congreve of Burton, Esquire and mother of 10 children | In mental powers superior to most of her sex | In the conscientious and uniform devotion of those powers | to her several and appropriate duties as a daughter, a wife, a parent and a friend inferior perhaps to none | Through life Loving, beloved, and amiable | In Death | leaving a grief behind her not to be alleviated | except by the hope of that everlasting reunion | To which her friends, after her example | Look forward through Jesus Christ our Lord | She died Augst 5th 1820 | Aged 44. |

On the same wall, a lozenge-shaped brass, in the centre a cross, and around the four sides of the brass this inscription—

To the memory of Elizabeth Campbell | Who died in this parish, March 16 1872 Aged 73 years || Widow of the Revd Augustus Campbell | Rector of Liverpool and Vicar of Childwall || This memorial is erected by her | surviving children || The Rev. E. A. P. Campbell, J. Pitcairn Campbell, and | Dame A. P. Gordon Cumming ||

On the same wall, a white marble tablet—

To the Memory | of | Sir John Stanley Massey Stanley Baronet | of Hooton | Who departed this life on the 24th day of Novr 1794 | in the 84th year of his age | of | Mary his wife | Daughter of Thomas Clifton Esquire of Lytham[1] | who Departed this Life on the 21st day of May 1770 | in the 40th Year of her Age | Also of their two Sons, viz. | Sir Thomas Stanley Massey Stanley Baronet | who Departed this Life | on the 19th Day of February 1795, at York in the 41st Year of his | Age and was Buri'd at Eastham | And | John Stanley Esquire | who Departed this Life on the 30th Day of Decr 1790 | in the 36th Year of his Age | This Monument of Gratitude | was erected by Lady Stanley | relict of Sir Thomas Stanley Massey Stanley & Daughter of | William Solvin[2] Esqr of Croxdale Durham | 1797 | Requiescant in Pace.

Above this tablet are the mutilated remains of an achievement, commemorative, according to Ormerod,

[1] This marriage may account for the impaled arms of Stanley and Clifton at Puddington old hall.

[2] Not S*a*lvin, as in Ormerod, though it should be so.

of the Massey family, viz.: Crest, a lion's head [depicted as couped]. Arms: 1 and 4, Massey of Puddington; 2, A bend [Sable] between six cinquefoils [Gules] [*Valentine*]; 3, mutilated.

On the floor of the chancel, partly covered by the choir stalls, is a brass 10½ by 6½ inches, the inscription in bold and well executed capitals:—

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF MARGRE
AT JACKSON WIF TO RICHARD JACKSON [1]
WHO DEPARTED OCTOBER THE 6 1694

ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THIS STONE
LYETH THE BODY OF RICHARD JACKSON
WHO DEPARTED AVGVST THE 10 1697

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF MARTHA
JACKSON WIE [*sic*] TO JOHN JACKSON WHO
DEPARTED THIS LIFE APRIL THE 24 1705

ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THIS STONE
LYETH THE BODY OF HENERY JACKSON
WHO DYED NOVEMBER THE 5 1705

The east window of three lights represents the Crucifixion in the centre, with St. Nicholas and St. George in dexter and sinister lights. In the upper part are the arms of Congreve, impaling—Azure,

[1] In his burial entry Richard Jackson is described as of Burton; his will is not at Chester, nor at P. C. C. in the years 1697–8–9. In his wife's burial entry John Jackson is also described as of Burton. Henry Jackson's locale is not given in the register; if it was in Wirral, his will is not at Chester, nor is there any will of a Henry Jackson at P. C. C. in the years 1705–6–7. Possibly one of the persons here commemorated may be ancestor of "Ricardus Jackson | de Willaston obiit die | 13º Jun: A.D. 1787 æt. anº 47 | " to whom a window has been placed in the south wall of the chancel there with his arms above—Azure, two bars Argent, on a canton Sable a pheon of the second; he was buried in Neston churchyard with a similar inscription.

a chevron engrailed Ermine between three escallops Argent. Inscription—

In honour of Christ Crucified, and of | His Saints Nicholas and George, and in | loving memory of William Congreve | who was born v.th of Aug. MDCCCXXXI | and died iv.th Jan. MCMII Fanny Emma his wife dedicates this window. |

This window has recently been placed in lieu of one which bore the following inscription :—

In memory of | Sarah Birch | died December 25.th 1840 | Louisa Ann Congreve | died January 3.rd 1850. |

At the east end of the south wall is a window of two lights, in the upper part the arms of Congreve, in the lower this inscription, in three lines—

Of your charity remember Edward Geoffrey and Selina | Emily Napier, dear to God which were the children of | William Congreve of Congreve and Burton Esquire || The said Edward Geoffrey died the 4.th day of Feb. 1871 and | Selina Emily Napier the 17.th day of May 1870, The Lord | Jesus Christ cherish them in the | pleasant land of paradise.

The lectern is of oak, and carved on one end thereof is a shield charged with three purses or bags, one of the symbols of St. Nicholas, to whom the church is dedicated, as we have already seen.

At the base of the chancel rails is a small brass plate—

James Pitcairn Campbell | Grateful for many blessings | Dedicated to the service of God | and to Burton Church this Screen and Pulpit | ✠ Easter Tide 1873. |

Cut into the stone of the south wall is this inscription—

✠ Hoc Cancellum in Honorem Dei Omnipotentis | et Sancti Nicolai[1] renovatum est | et in piam memoriam Gulielmi Gualteri

[1] Not Nicolæ, as in Ormerod.

Congreve | de Congreve et Burton Armigeri et Annæ Selinæ uxoris ejus | Quorum animæ in Benedictione sint. Amen. | Anno Domini M-D-CCCLXX.

On the same wall, a brass—

✠ Of your Charity remember | William Scholes who for more | than 30 years was the faithful servant of W. W. & | A. S. Congreve and of their children. The which | William was born in Burton in the Year of our | Lord 1811 and there died in 1867.

On a marble tablet let into same wall—

Prope jacent reliquiæ | Elizabethæ filiæ Thomæ Watts hujus Ecclesiæ | Pastoris. Obiit A.D. 1775. | In eodem tumulo jacent | reliquiæ Peircii ejus | fratris.[1] Obiit A.D. 1781. |

On the same wall, a brass—

Remember in the Lord | Joseph Jones | served God in this Church | for more than 50 years | as clerk of the parish | A friend & faithful servant | through his whole life | to the Congreves | of Congreve & Burton. | He died March 11th 1896 Aged 87 years. |

On the same wall, a black and white marble tablet—

Sacred to the memory of | William Gregory of Sealand | who departed this life 12th Feby. 1814 | Aged 57 years | Also Elizth Gregory relict of the above | who died July 19th 1817 | Aged 72 years. | [verse].

On the same wall, a similar tablet—

In memory of | Andrew Boyd Baird | of Paisley | who died at sea May 22d 1874 | Aged 31 years | This tablet was erected | by the Owners of the Barque | "Maravilla" of Liverpool, of | which he had command | previous to his death. |

There is now no table of Benefactions in the church, but the following is an extract from report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Administration of Charities, 1837 :—

---

[1] There is no "qui" before "obiit," as in Ormerod.

"Burton—Poors Fund

"The table of benefactions in the Parish Church records the following gifts to the Poor :—

Nathaniel Wilson of Burton[1]	£10
John Moors of Eastham	5
Willm Wilson of Raby	20
Willm Prigg[2] [*sic*]	5
John Gregory	5
Jane Leader (Dec. 26, 1745)	5
Ellen Lightfoot (1747)	5
	55

"The greatest part of this money has been lost by being lent on insufficient security. The legacies of Mr. Gregory, Mrs. Leader, and Mrs. Lightfoot were placed in the hands of a Mr. Gregory of Burton, the payment of interest at 5 per cent. being secured by a bond and a note of hand. By an entry in the Churchwardens books, it appears that the money, having been paid over to Mr. John Capper, was by him placed in the hands of Richard Congreve, Esq., at Michaelmas 1807, the amount being £18. There was a further sum in the hands of Mr. Thomas Gregory of Burton, secured by a bond, but Mr. Gregory dying insolvent, the money was lost to the parish. Mr. Congreve, thinking it desirable that the interest of the £18, which had been paid over to him, should be allowed to accumulate till the annual sum to be distributed should be sufficient to be of some service to the poor, kept the money for twelve years, at the end of which time, by the accumulation of interest, with an addition made by himself, the amount was doubled. He now distributes annually the sum of £1, 16s., being the interest of £36, to the poor in clothing. A regular account of the distribution has been kept and audited by the Minister and Churchwardens. Mr. Congreve is the only landed proprietor in the parish, and has the entire management of this fund."

In the nave is an old oak desk and a few links of a chain, to which a religious book was no doubt formerly attached.

[1] This is no doubt the "some part of his goods" left to the poor by his will, 1701. *See* page 69 *n.*

[2] The will of William Trigg was proved at Chester, 1740, and Ormerod is no doubt correct in his rendering.

On the clock, inside—

JOHN COOPER | SAMLᴸ. LITTLER | CH: WARDENS 1751 |
JOSEPH SMITH, | CHESTER, FECIT.

Carved on an oak beam in the belfry—

WILLIAM CROSS | 1721.

On the top of the tower, evidently blocking up an old manhole—

T. S. & T. T. | 1859 | T. BOWCOK | 1843.

The Bells

There is a chime of six bells bearing the following inscriptions :—

PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD 1724

PROSPERITY TO THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND 1724

PROSPERITY TO THIS PARISH 1724

WM: WILSON & ROBT: JONES CHURCHWARDENS 1724

ABR: RUDHALL CAST VS ALL 1724

RING OUT BLACK SIN
FAIR PEACE RING IN AD 1896

JOHN TAYLOR & CO FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH

The Churchyard

On the south side of the church is a sundial on a red sandstone pillar, mounted on two steps, bearing an inscription on the dial—

JOS. WILSON | THO. EVANS | CHURCHWARDENS | 177[?5]

This dial was replaced by the present vicar, who informs me that there are many tombstones in the churchyard entirely buried. All the inscriptions that are decaying or which are of interest have been

copied, and a small selection will be found in the Appendix, page 43.

The Church Plate

There is a tradition that the old church plate is buried in or about the church. The only reference to it I have found is in a short document in the Record Office, London, which shows that in 3 Edward VI. [1549–50], after the Royal coffers had been filled with almost everything the churches possessed, "Byrton" had "one chaless and a ringe of ii belles."[1] The plate now in use is modern, and consists of a communion cup 8¼ inches high, stem 3¾ inches high, diameter of foot 3¾ inches, of cup at lip 4 inches; a patten 9½ inches diameter, and flagon 15 inches high; all bear the same inscription, viz.—

"BURTON CHURCH A.D. 1809. E DONO
RICARDI CONGREVE ARMIGERI."

It is greatly to be regretted that the old church plate has vanished.

Rectors, Curates, and Vicars of Burton

The Church of Burton, which was anciently attached to the manor, was granted by Alexander de Savensby, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, to the Hospital of St. Andrew in Denwall, in the adjacent township of Nesse, in the parish of Neston, in 1238, by charter.

After this charter, the Masters of Denwall Hospital were uniformly presented to the Rectory of Burton.

[1] *Wirral Notes and Queries*, ii. 6.

Rectors of Burton

1302 Simon de Scachell.
1319 William de Chanelegh.
1336 John de Mountsorell.
1338 Nicholas de Heath.
1353 John de Charnes.
1374 William de Newhagh.
1400 John Lugore.
1422, in and before, Henry Halsall.
1422 William Neuhagh.
1424 Thomas Clerk.
1425 Robert Dykes.
1427 Thomas Wykersley.
1434 Roger Wall.
1440 Edmund Tebbot.
1445 Roger Wall.
1449–95 John Bothe.

In 1495–6 the benefices of Denwall and Burton were appropriated to the Hospital of St. John in Lichfield. The Hospital nominates the Curate; the tithes and Hospital lands are leased. Before the date of the Union the living is termed a Rectory, but afterwards it is mentioned in proceedings in the Chester Diocesan Register as a curacy; under a modern Act it is accounted a vicarage.

Perpetual Curates of Burton

Ante 1541 to *post.* 1563	Thomas Mawdesley.
Ante 1565	Robert Basford.
Ante 1590–1633	Peter Blinston.
1633–46	Henry Trafford.
1646	Richard Hopwood.
1654	Hugh Bethell.
1661	Richard Banner.
1663–81	John Litherland.
1683–7	Robert Artinstall.
1693–5	Richard Weever.
1696	William Shawe.
1695 [?]–1725	Thomas Bainbridge.
1727–50	Francis Ashenhurst.
1750–7	Robert Washington.

1760–94	James Stafford.
1796–7	Geo. Somers Clarke.
1799–1801	Samuel Hassall.
1800–1	E. Parry [?].
1802–4	Joseph Bower.
1805–6	Benjamin Penny.
1807–32	J. Price.
1832–6	E. H. Johnson.
1836–8	R. Bagot.
1840–58	Ralph Congreve.
1858–66	Charles Stuart Upperton.
1866–70	T. R. Langharne.
1870–5	Joseph Lyon.
1876	C. H. Steward.

Vicars of Burton

1876–93	Thomas Dunn.
1893–4	A. H. Paine.
1894–6	F. A. Potts.
1896–1901	C. A. Sladen.
1902	Patrick F. A. Morrell.

The Registers

The registers consist of—

A parchment volume $13\frac{3}{4} \times 6 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, containing mixed entries, 1538–1780.

A volume containing marriages alone, on paper, 1754–1812, measuring $13\frac{1}{2} \times 9 \times \frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Two volumes bound in calf, containing mixed entries, 1780–1807 and 1807–1813, measuring respectively $13\frac{1}{2} \times 9 \times \frac{3}{8}$ inches and $13\frac{1}{2} \times 9 \times \frac{1}{4}$ inches.

A volume bound in parchment containing marriages alone, on paper, 1813–1835, measuring $14\frac{1}{4} \times 9\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ inches.

A similar volume for baptisms, 1813–1835, measuring $15 \times 10 \times \frac{1}{2}$ inches.

A similar volume for burials, 1813–1897, and the modern registers.

A selection of entries will be found in the Appendix, together with abstracts of wills pertaining to some of the burials.

Inscribed Stones

On the gable end of a cottage near the church in raised letters—

I L ◇ S L

T ⊙ 1682

These are for John Leather and Sarah Browne, married at Chester 4th August 1657, Timothy, son of John Leather, baptized 1661.

On a house, until recently the Vicarage, incised—

B

T ◇ I

1711

♡

At Puddington, on an old brick house, in raised letters—

B

T T

W ♡ B

17 ⚜ 10

o o

These two last stones I am unable to identify.

In the wall of a lane at Puddington is a stone bearing the date 1646, which was found in the moat of the old hall some years since.

Burton Point

The ancient name for Burton Point was Ness Head, and in the tithe map we find a field there

called Nesset Hey and a Nesset Common. It was formerly washed by the sea, which has left unmistakable marks on the rocky headland. When the "Cop" was being made about 1875, a number of skeletons were discovered buried on the Point. Local tradition to-day says there were "at least fifty or sixty," that they were coffined, and that several were those of men of huge stature. A primitive "priming rod" is also said to have been discovered. Sulley in his "Hundred of Wirral" states that twenty-nine skeletons were discovered, and that they were all laid east and west, denoting Christian burial. Round these skeletons various legends of battles, vikings, &c., have grown, losing nothing in the telling we may be sure, and it is much to be desired they should be examined by an expert and the skull indices taken. In the meantime no weapons have been found, and it is possible a simple entry in the parish register may account for the interment—

"Willmus Farrar generosus in progressu hiberniam submersus juxta Hilbree (ut aiunt) cum quadraginta aliis in Navicula Simonis Andrews de Thurstingtō cujus negligentia pijt (periit) sepultus decimo septimo Augusti 1637."

Here we have a definite statement that forty-one persons were drowned. If Sulley's statement that there are only twenty-nine skeletons is correct, we must suppose all the bodies were not recovered, or that some were buried elsewhere. If, however, there are more than forty-one, either the entry quoted fails to account for the interments, or burials must have taken place on the Point in still earlier times. No entries, however, are to be found in the registers of West Kirby, Thurstaston, Heswall, or Neston regarding the drowned men, so perhaps the number of the skeletons has been exaggerated, and the entry refers to them, and, as one of my antiquarian brethren has suggested, the bones instead

of being those of vikings are merely those of Irish harvest labourers, who, being papists, could not be interred in consecrated ground. If they were natives of Ireland it is not improbable the stories of gigantic stature may have some foundation, for it is a fact that Irishmen average taller than Cheshire men,[1] and I have read, though I am unable to quote authority, that the tallest men in the British army are recruited in the north of Ireland.

The Old Mill

How long a mill has stood on Burton Hill it is difficult to say, but we have, in a faded entry in the corner of a page of the parish register, evidence that one existed prior to 1629, presumably on the present site: "Burton Milne was built new by Sr William Massey knight about ye feast of all Saints in Anno . . . 1629." The present ruin is situated on the crest of the hill to the north of the village. The base of this old peg mill and some woodwork are all that remain of this once picturesque landmark. This base, upon which the wooden mill revolved, is about eight feet in height, and on the side away from the Dee, that is, the sheltered side, is covered with ivy. The mill was partially destroyed during a gale about twenty-six years ago, and since then neglect has completed the ruin.

There are two doorways into the basement, one at the north side, and the other at the south side; near the latter, low down by the ground, is a stone with $\frac{RO}{1771}$ inscribed on it.[2]

[1] The Report of the Anthropometric Committee of the British Association 1883 gives statistics of *average* stature as follows:—Connaught and Munster, 68½–69 inches; Ulster and Leinster, 68–68½ inches; Cheshire, 66½–67 inches.

[2] "The Old Flour Mills of Wirral," by E. Mitford Abraham, *Trans. Hist. Soc. Lancashire and Cheshire*, vol. lv.-lvi. 141 (1903-4).

The mill was formerly one of the meets of Sir Thomas Stanley's foxhounds, and two years ago the author saw a dead fox minus a foreleg in the vicinity.

From this point the view of the estuary is one of the most beautiful in Wirral, particularly perhaps on a bright winter day, when the Welsh peaks are glittering with snow.

Place Names

The study of place names though extremely interesting must always be somewhat unsatisfactory, inasmuch as absolute proof of their derivation is often lacking, and those best qualified to decide are, in the case of Burton, by no means unanimous. Canon Taylor says the name "is usually from the Anglo-Saxon *búr-tún*, the *tún* or farmyard containing a *búr* or 'bower,' the word *búr* meaning a 'storehouse' in Old Norman, and in Anglo-Saxon a 'chamber,' 'sleeping place,' or building of some kind." Mr. Harrison[1] considers this explanation lame, as every farmhouse must of necessity possess accommodation of this kind, and gets over the difficulty by taking the *búr* to represent not an apartment but a husbandman, tiller of the soil, working farmer, corresponding to the Dutch *boer*, from which our lexicographers, including Skeat, have derived the English "boor." He remarks that boor has a continuous history in England, from Anglo-Saxon (*ge*)*búr*, onwards through Middle English, and that it is found in "neighbour," originally the "near farmer." In similar manner we have Chorleton, the village of the churls or peasants. Mr. Irvine considers that Burton signifies the rick yard, and that it was possibly an outlying settlement in primitive times, from

[1] "Place Names of the Liverpool District," 1898, p. 81.

Willaston, the earliest settlement of our English forefathers. Puddington occurs in Domesday as Potintone, in the fourteenth century as Podynton, in a Lay Subsidy of the sixteenth century as Podyngton, and in the seventeenth century hearth taxes as Pudington. In the register it occurs as Pottington as late as 1679. It is probably, Mr. Irvine considers, the *ton* of the *ing* or family of the Pudds or Podds or Potts.

Field Names

There is no more interesting study or one throwing greater light on the ancient condition of the land than that of field names, though unfortunately popular corruption has frequently altered them beyond recognition and rendered their meaning difficult or impossible to discover, and this, as will be seen, is in many instances the case at Burton.

Walking to the village from the railway station the first field on the right is called Nesset Common, the next fields, both on right and left, Nesset Hey. Nesset is no doubt a corruption of Ness Head, the ancient name for Burton Point; the Nesset Hey on the right was formerly divided by a fence, the portion nearest the village being called Glegg's Hey. There are also other fields in the parish called after this old Cheshire family. Opposite Bishop Wilson's school, on the Dee side of the road, is Glegg's field, and beyond the village, on the right side of the road to Willaston, is Glegg's Sandfield, and near the Chester road Glegg's Heath. Next to Glegg's Hey, on the highest point of ground, is Mill Nook. The situation is a favourable one for a windmill, and there may well have been one there, though no trace of it is left.

The next two fields before reaching the little gully are called Foot road Bithum and Bithum.

The road from Burton to Puddington passes between several fields called Crossgraves, Big Crossgraves and Little Crossgraves, and on the left is a field called Ryeland Hey. There is no stream there, and the field may therefore take its name from the crop it formerly produced.

On the Burton-Willaston road, a little beyond the wood, is a road to Mudhouse Wood, so called from cottages made entirely of clay and sods, which formerly abutted on this road, and diverging from this towards Puddington a narrow lane passing between fields called Priestway, Priestway and Bottom, Ortion Priestway, Priestway and Pingle, Meadows Ortion, and two large fields called Ortion. This lane is sunken and well defined for two fields farther than shown in the Ordnance map. On the high ground facing Dunston farm is Castle Hey, and in a semicircle, on the lower ground to south of Heath farm, are several enclosures called Castle fields. Nothing is known of any mediæval castle here, and this hey may mark the site of some Roman or British camp. No trace of it, however, can be discovered.

Some thirty fields in Burton township parallel with the Chester road are called in the tithe map Heath.

Of other remarkable names we have Friday foot, The Mares, Withyn way, Pickerton's pillow croft, Copgraves.

In Puddington township the interesting names are not so numerous. Alongside a lane leading from the village northwards we have Piper lane croft, and next to it Brook Looms; running along the ditch forming the boundary of Puddington and Burton townships is Mill field. Before drainage took place the ditch may have been a stream

sufficient for a watermill, and several large ponds at its north end presenting a somewhat artificial appearance lend some colour to the conjecture. On the other hand, fields also abutting on the ponds are called Marled field and Watering Pits. The mill may therefore have been only a gorse mill for cutting fodder.

Other names noticeable are Stanny Hooks, Little Hugger Hey, Great Hugger Hey, Owler Hey, Cross Hey, Gorstil, Hicock's Park, Kendrick's Hey, Flash Croft, Higher Hammond's Hey, Hommily's Croft, Kelsall's Mare Hey, Provin Allens, Ellis's Highfield, Hoose's Croft. Some of these may be called after very early settlers.

On the south-east boundary of Puddington Sir Thomas Stanley Massey Stanley owned a deer's leap, or fifteen feet from the coast, to within two fields of Two Mills.

Ten fields in the township are called Heath Hey or some similar name.

"The Rude Forefathers"

From the various subsidy rolls are obtained a list of the old local surnames, as well as some indication of the standing of individuals, and such rolls as could readily be obtained will be found in the Appendix, page 76.

Bishop Wilson

Thomas Wilson, afterwards Bishop of Sodor and Man, was the fifth son of the eight[1] children of Nathaniel Wilson of Burton, who appears to have been of the yeoman class and a successful man. In his will, preserved at Chester, he leaves "some part

[1] Historians ignore his sister Anne, though she is mentioned in her father's will as one of "my own children." See p. 69 *n*.

of my goods to the poor, for they [the executors] very well know how God has blessed me in whatever I have put my hand to,"[1] and he bequeaths lands in "Willison" [Willaston] called the Three Nookes, a house and croft in West Kirby, and two fields there called "ye broad Hey and Croft Millen," besides personal estate. His mother was Alice, sister of Richard Sherlock, D.D., Rector of Winwick, said to be one of the Sherlocks of Oxton. Wilson thus probably came of yeoman stock on both sides, nor indeed outside of being of an ancient and gentle fighting race could a more respectable origin, or one more likely to conduce to a successful career, have been wished for him.

In the Middle Ages the yeomen made England what she was; it was they who gained for her those victories at Agincourt and Poictiers, on which she looks back with the most honest pride, and whose numbers and independence it is the aim of our present land reformers to restore.[2] Sir Harris Nicolas in his "History of the Battle of Agincourt" says, that to their "gallantry and steadiness the victory may be chiefly attributed."

Wilson was born at Burton 20th December 1663, in the picturesque cottage of red sandstone with thatched roof which stands on the left side of the road at the commencement of the village street as one approaches it from Burton Point, and the Bishop is said by Keble to have been born on the ground floor immediately to the left of the entrance. He was educated at King's School, Chester, and Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated B.A., February 1686; M.A., 1696; LL.D., 1698; D.D., 1707; was ordained deacon the former year, and became curate to his uncle Sherlock in the chapelry of Newchurch Kenyon, parish of Winwick. He

[1] See Burton Poors Fund, *ante*, p. 16.
[2] Walter Rye in the *Genealogist*, January 1885.

BISHOP WILSON'S BIRTHPLACE, BURTON

was ordained priest 20th October 1689, and in 1692 became chaplain to the ninth Earl of Derby, who appointed him Bishop of Sodor and Man in 1697.

In 1724 he founded and in 1732 endowed a school at his birthplace, Burton. He died at Bishop's Court 7th March 1755, the fiftieth anniversary of his wife's death, and was buried at the east end of Kirk Michael churchyard.[1] By his wife Mary (who was born 16th July 1674, and died 7th March 1705), daughter of Thomas Patten, whom he married at Winwick 27th October 1698,[2] he had four children, of whom Thomas survived him.

Of Wilson's work in the Isle of Man, of his planting of fruit and forest trees, his milling, his building of churches, in addition to his ordinary episcopal work and literary labours, space does not permit us here to speak; suffice it to say he was an energetic, broad-minded, and good man.[3] Canon Farrar calls him the "last survivor . . . of the saints of the English Church."[4]

[1] Sleeping in Jesus
Here
Lyeth the Body of
THOMAS WILSON, D.D.
Lord Bishop of this Isle
Who dyed March 7th. 1755
And in the 58th. year of his Consecration.
This Monument was erected by his Son
THOMAS WILSON, D.D.
A Native of this Parish
Who in obedience to the express
Command of his worthy Father
Declines giving him the Character
He so Justly Deserved.
Let this Island Speak the Rest.*

[2] 1698, Oct. 27. The Reverend Father in God Thomas Wilson Lord Bishop of Man & Madam Mary Patten of Warrington by License [Winwick Register].

[3] "Dictionary of National Biography," edited by Sidney Lee.

[4] "The Classic Preachers of the English Church," by F. W. Farrar, Canon of Westminster, vol. i.

* I am indebted to the Rev. Alfred Morris, Vicar of Kirk Michael, for kindly correcting the version I had found, which, as usual, was very inaccurate.

Bishop Wilson's School

The school and schoolmaster's house stand prominently on the brow of the hill facing the estuary. They were built by Bishop Wilson in 1724 and 1725, for the free education of the Burton boys and girls, and of four from Puddington. He endowed them with 26 acres of land, to which Dr. Wilson, the Bishop's son, subsequently added £200. The first master was a Mr. Dinnie, to whom the Bishop delivered personally, and in his own handwriting, twelve Rules for its management. This original manuscript was, some years prior to 1884, in possession of the late Mr. Charles Howell, of Kingslake Street, Liverpool, son of a master of the school. A copy of them hung, by the Bishop's order, on the school wall from the day of its opening down to 1881, when a New Scheme of management was imposed by the Charity Commissioners. It is much to be regretted that modern legislation has thus rudely interfered with Bishop Wilson's pious intentions and regulations, as will be seen by the following contrast:—

Bishop Wilson's Rules

IV. The master is to read prayers every morning before he begins to teach, and every evening before he dismisseth the children.

V. Every evening before they depart he is to give the children a short charge, to be sure to say their prayers before they go to bed and as soon as they rise; to be dutiful to their parents, civil and respectful to all they meet; to be careful not to tell any manner of lie, nor to take God's name in vain.

VI. He is to take special care to make the children sensible of the end of learning; which is, that

BISHOP WILSON'S SCHOOL, BURTON

they may be better able to read the Holy Scriptures, and therein to learn their duty, &c.

The New Scheme's Rules

Sec. 26. The parent or guardian of any scholar attending the school as a day scholar, may claim by notice in writing, addressed to the principal teacher, the exemption of such scholar from attending prayer or religious worship, or from any lesson or series of lessons on a religious subject, and such scholar shall be exempted accordingly.[1]

Thomas Wilson, D.D.

Thomas Wilson, the only surviving child of the Bishop, was born at Bishop's Court 24th August 1703; B.A., Christ Church, Oxon, 17th December 1724; M.A., 16th December 1727; B.D. and D.D., 10th May 1739; Rector of St. Stephen's Walbrooke and King's Chaplain, 1737. He was made Prebendary of Westminster 11th April 1743, and held the Rectory of St. Margaret's, Westminster, from 1753. He died at Alfred House, Bath, 15th April 1784, and was buried at St. Stephen's aforesaid. Having married 4th February 1734 his cousin Mary, daughter of William Patten, and widow of William Hayward of Stoke Newington, they had issue one son, who died in infancy. Dr. Wilson left his property to his relative, Thomas Patten, father of John Wilson Patten, Baron Winmarleigh.[2]

[1] *Cheshire Sheaf*, I., S. iii. 176.

[2] "Dictionary of National Biography," edited by Sidney Lee. His will reads as follows:—

(P. C. C. Rockingham, 240.)

Abstract of the will of Thomas Wilson, D.D., prebendary of Westminster, now residing in Bath, co. Somerset, dated 5 May 1779; Codicils, 15 May 1728, 8 April 1783, and 18 Jan. 1784. To be buried in the chancel of St. Stephen's Walbrook, London, near my late wife.

£200 in trust for the schoolmaster for the time being at the school

The Wilson Pedigree

Bishop Wilson's biographers have not troubled to investigate his pedigree, contenting themselves with the statement that he was the son of Nathaniel Wilson of Burton, yeoman. That this Nathaniel was

at Burton in the Hundred of Wirrall, co. Chester, founded by my father, late bishop of Sodor and Man.

£500 in trust for godson Thomas Patten, son of Robert Patten, late of Warrington, co. Lancaster, deceased.

Thomas Patten, second son of Thomas Patten of Bank, co. Lancaster, esq.

Thomas Gooch of Benacre Hall, Suffolk, and his son Thomas Sherlock Gooch; late wife's granddaughter, Anna Maria, wife of said Thomas Gooch.

Thomas Macklin, of Derby, his daughter Mary Roberts Macklin, Catherine Sophia Macauley, daughter of the late Dr. Macauley, my wife's kinsman, Mr. John Jackson, late of Clapham, merchant.

Mr. John Burford of Westminster, for many years my collector of Easter Offerings at St. Margaret's; Rev. Mr. Digby, my assistant at Walbrook.

Mr. Dumbel, my agent at Warrington.

Godson Thomas Macauley Crutwell, son of Richard Crutwell of Bath, printer.

To Thomas Macklin, the large plan or map of my estates in Wirral, which he drew for me, and my fine triangular seal of arms, and silver seal.

Annuity of £50 to John Wilkes, alderman of the city of London, in testimony of my regard for him for having nobly stood forth in defence of the laws, liberties, and constitution of his country.

Estates at Woodchurch in the hundred of Wirrall, co. Chester, to Thomas Macklin in tail male.

Newhall Farm, etc., in Great Neston, etc., to Thomas Patten, second son of Thomas Patten, in tail male.

Gordon Peter Bold Patten, eldest son of Thomas Patten the elder.

Every person who for the time being shall be in possession of my said estates in Woodchurch, or the husband of any female so seised, shall assume the surname of Wilson, and bear the coat of arms and crest of Wilson, which I now use and bear, under pain of forfeiture for neglect.

Revocation of provision formerly made in favour of Catherine Graham, late Catherine Macauley, widow.

(signed) Thomas Wilson.

Witnesses: Richd. Green of Bath, painter, W. Percival of Bath, Attorney, Rd. Bowsher, junior, his clerk.

Codicils (as Prebendary of Westminster and Rector of St. Stephen's Walbrook, but now residing at Bath) revoking the annuity to John

the son of William Wilson of Willaston[1] is probable, but beyond that it seems impossible, after exhausting the Chester Probate and Diocesan Registries, and the Parish Registers of Neston, Burton, and Shotwick, to construct any pedigree with certainty. It is possible an exhaustive search in P.C.C., Chancery Suits, and other Records might throw further light on his origin, but in view of the social position of the family and the frequency of the surname, such an investigation is not very promising. The arms used by the Bishop were the usual arms for Wilson, viz.: Sable, a wolf salient, and in chief three estoiles Or, and these arms are said to be on his monument (*Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. lvii. p. 943). They appear, however, to have been assumed of his own mere motion, and there is no Royal Licence or Patent of Arms for Patten-Wilson at the

Wilkes, he having been elected city chamberlain, and therefore having no want of it.

Proved 30 April 1784 by Thomas Macklin and Thomas Patten, executors.

Thomas Macklin appears to have complied to some extent with the provisions of the will, probably to a sufficient extent for legal purposes. The following is from the *Dublin Gazette*:—

"MACKLIN, WHITEHALL, *May* 8, 1784.—The King has been pleased to grant to Thomas Macklin, of the Town of Derby, Esq., and his Issue, His Royal Licence and Authority to take and use the Surname of Wilson only, and also to bear the Arms of Wilson (such Arms being first duly exemplified according to the Laws of Arms, and recorded in the Heralds' Office), pursuant to the last Will and Testament of the Reverend Thomas Wilson, D.D., Prebendary of Westminster and late of the City of Bath, deceased; and also to order, that this His Majesty's Concession and Declaration be registered in His College of Arms."

With regard to the provision requiring him to assume the Wilson arms, we shall presently see the family do not appear to have possessed any, so that the condition being impossible of fulfilment no legal obligation lay upon him.

[1] Buried at Neston Oct. [11?] 1670. His will as of Willaston, dated 25 Jan. 1661, was proved at Chester 10 May 1671 by his relict Elizabeth; in it he mentions "my sun Johanathan's daughter Sisley." Richard Sherlock in his will dated 14 June 1689 proved at Chester 5 Aug. following leaves legacies to "my brothers Nathaniell and Jonathan Wilson and my cousen John Wilson of Williston."

College of Arms. The Patten-Wilson pedigree as recorded (Howard, p. 84, &c.) begins 1100 and ends in 1769, and in the shield of arms are eleven quarterings, but so far as concerns Wilson it shows only three generations, commencing with the Bishop.

Keble states that the Bishop's father, Nathaniel, was of a family which had been inhabitants time immemorial of that part of the County of Chester, but that the earliest distinct mention of any Wilson now occurring in the registers is the marriage of a William Wilson in 1584. As "time immemorial" in genealogy is taken to be the first year of Richard I., *i.e.* 1189–1190, some evidence for the former statement would be of much interest. In the meantime the earliest will of any Wilson in the whole of the Hundred was proved at Chester in 1600. With regard to the second statement, it will be seen there were Wilsons in Burton in 1549, when Thomas, son of Peter, was baptized. Keble further mentions a tradition that the Bishop and the Wilsons of Leeds were related, and adduces the similarity of arms borne by both families as a further proof. Tradition, though useful as a clue, is not evidence, and genealogists will smile at the armorial argument.

Bishop Wilson's Library

At the Vicarage are preserved the following books formerly belonging to Bishop Wilson:—

1. The Workes | of the Very | learned and | Reverend Father in God | John Jewell | not long since Bishop of | Sarisburie | Lond . . . | Printed by . . . | [torn].

[At top of this sheet is written—The feare of ȳ Lord is ȳ beginning of wisdom.]

2. Knowledge | and | Practice | Together with | The Supplement | or a | Plain Discourse | Of the chief things necessary to be | Known, Believ'd, and Practis'd | in order to | Salvation | by Saml. Cradock, B.D. . . . | London 1702.

BISHOP WILSON'S BOOK-PLATE

3. "A Paraphrase with Annotations" on the Gospels and Acts.
[Title page gone.]
Dedication to Queen [? Anne].

4. An | Explication | to the | Catechism of the | Church of England 2 vols. . . . by Gabriel Towerson . . . | London 1685.
Contains Book-plate—a figure of St. Augustine kneeling at a desk thereon a book, to sinister a book case, from dex^r chief a glory with ins: TOLLE LEGE.
Vid. S^ti Aug. Confess: Lib. 8 Cap. 12.
This Book belongs to | the Parochial Library | of [Burton in Werral (written)] in the | County of [Chester (written)].

5. Bray's Lectures on the Catechism [front leaves gone].

6. The | Principles | of the | Christian Religion | explained | in a brief | Commentary | upon the | Church Catechism | by the Most Reverend Father in God | William | Lord Arch-Bishop of Canterbury. . . .
London MDCCXX.

7. Thesaurus Theologicus | or a complete system | of | Divinity: | . . . by William Beveridge, D.D. | Late Lord Bishop of St Asaph | vol. ii.
London MDCCX.

Title page gone.
8. Sundry printed Sermons, mainly on behalf of S. P. G. and Schools by sundry hands.

In the vestry a leather bound volume mounted and clasped brass, title page gone. Foxes' "Book of Martyrs," with a brass loop, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{4}$. This edition of "Actes & Monuments of these latter and perillous dayes," better known as the Book of Martyrs, was printed by Richard Day, son of John Day (1522–84), who printed the first edition, and also Ascham's "Schoolmaster," he had twenty-six children. A Stephen Day went to America in 1639 as printer to Harvard College.

Bishop Wilson's Bible, in two volumes bound calf, $12\frac{3}{4} \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times 3$. Vol. I. contains this inscription :—

"F. C. Sneyd Kynersley | Highwood | 1838.

"This Bible was once the property of Bishop Wilson, and was purchased in the Isle of Man by Mr. Hulbert of Shrewsbury,

whose partner, Mr. John Davies, sold it to me. The MSS. notes are Bishop Wilson's handwriting.

"This Bible was presented to the church of Burton in Wirral—the birthplace of Bishop Wilson—by E. M. Sneyd Kynersley, Esquire, on 17th November 1879.

"THOMAS DUNN, M.A.,
"Vicar of Burton."

The title page reads—

. . . printed at y^e *Theatre* in | *Oxford* | sold by *M. Pitt* at ye Angel | in St. Paul's Churchyard [ND].

The second volume has the Chippendale bookplate of S^ir Samuel Prince, Knt. Argent, a human leg erased at the thigh, Sable. Crest: an Owl. It contains the Proverbs and Apocrypha, but is not annotated, as is the first. The New Testament is missing.

PUDDINGTON OLD HALL

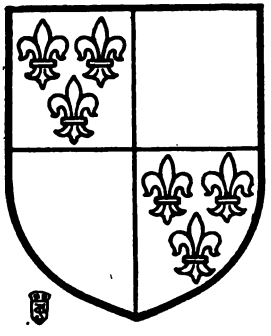
Puddington was in the possession of the Masseys from the Conquest until the death of William Massey in 171$\frac{5}{6}$. In Domesday we read—

"Hamo" [Baron of Dunham Massey] "tenet de Hugone comite Potitone. Uluric tenuit, & liber homo fuit," &c.

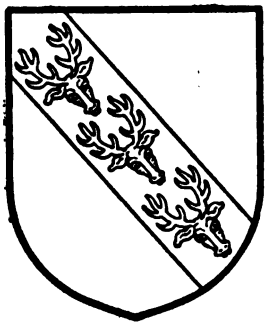
William Massey left Puddington to his godson Thomas, son of William Stanley of Hooton, Esq. [see his will, page 70], and he, becoming a Jesuit, assigned it to his elder brother John, who assumed the name of Massey, and built the New Hall about 1760.[1] It was of brick, and partly destroyed by fire in 1867, but the two wings may still be seen from the road. On the death of Sir William Stanley of Hooton, Bart., in 1792, the baronetcy and Stanley estates devolved to his uncle, the said John Stanley Massey, of Puddington, Esq., and in 1816 became vested with the estates of the Masseys in

[1] "Notes on the Old Halls of Wirral," by W. F. Irvine, *Trans. Hist. Soc. Lanc. and Ches.*, liii. 117.

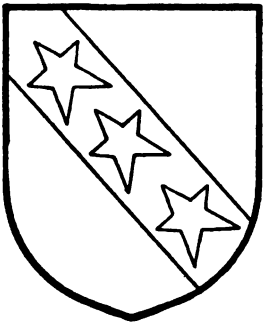
his grandson Sir Thomas Stanley Massey Stanley, Bart., from whom the Puddington and some few other estates in the County of Chester descended to the last heir male of this ancient family, Sir



MASSEY OF PUDDINGTON



STANLEY OF HOOTON



CLIFTON OF LYTHAM

John Stanley Massey Stanley-Errington, Bart., of Puddington.[1]

The old Hall was built in quadrangular shape, with a courtyard in the centre, about the year 1490. Some of the old black and white work still remains in the courtyard, including an open gallery. We get a good idea of the accommodation of the Hall in

[1] Ormerod, ii. 558.

1674 from an Inventory attached to the will of Edward Massey of Puddington, which enumerates the following rooms:—

The deceased's bedchamber, the little chamber, Nurcery, the passage room, the parlour chamber, the bell chamber, Mr Richard's chamber, Thomas Barrow's chamber, Robert Peerse's chamber, Mr Palliser's chamber, George Antonie's chamber, Frank's chamber, the yallow chamber, the dyneing roome (which contained only a cupboard, a frame for a table and an old bedstead!"), the greene chamber, my Lady's son John's chamber, the D^rs chamber, the mayd's chamber, the parlour, Richard Jones' chamber, the closett above the Hall.

The moat which surrounded the Hall still remains, though not very strongly marked on the north and west; it was formerly crossed by a drawbridge on the north side. Some years ago a stone bearing the date 1646 was found in it, which is now inserted in the wall of the adjacent lane. In the north-west corner of the wall bounding the moat there were, until this year, three fragments of carved stonework, showing part of the arms of Massey impaling Stanley, Stanley impaling Massey, and a small fragment of a third coat, showing two mullets on a bend, no doubt all that remains of the coat of Clifton—Sable, on a bend Argent, three mullets Gules, Sir John Stanley-Massey-Stanley, 6th baronet, having married Mary, daughter of Thomas Clifton of Lytham, Co. Lancaster.[1] These fragments have now been removed to the new terrace on the south side of the Hall. The arms of Massey of Puddington—Quarterly, Gules and Or, in the 1st and 4th quarters three fleur-de-lys, Argent—are a beautiful specimen of early armory, founded like the coats of Mandeville, De Vere, Beauchamp of Bedford, and Despencer on quarterly of two tinctures, and it would be an interesting, though perhaps a difficult, task to trace their origin,

[1] Foster's "Peerage and Baronetage," 1881, pp. 219 and 211 respectively.

and to show the different but similar coats borne by the various branches spread over Cheshire descended from Hamo, Baron of Dunham Massey. So far, at least, as the definite shape which the arms of Massey of Puddington took, we have fortunately written evidence. In the second year of Richard II. [1378] a dispute took place between two members of this ancient family. John of Tatton had complained to the Constable and Marshal that John of Potington [Puddington] was using his arms. The parties had pleaded, and a day was fixed for taking evidence. Thereupon, to avoid expense and further dispute, the two Masseys submitted to the arbitration of four knights and one esquire, and bound themselves by deed to observe the award. The arbitrators consulted certain noble and wise knights of the realm, who decided that neither of the claimants should bear the challenged arms. To John of Potington they awarded the arms borne by his grandfather, while for John of Tatton they appear to have devised an entirely new difference, assigning him quarterly, Or and Gules, in the 1st and 3rd quarters three escallops Argent.

Massey of Potington entered his arms at the Visitation of Cheshire 1580, with a quartering for Valentine—Argent, a bend Sable between six cinquefoils Gules.[1]

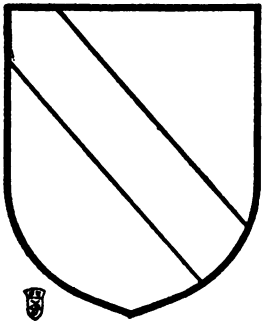
The award is given in the *Harleian MSS.*,[2] from which it appears that the four knights were Hughe de Calveleghe, "chivaler"; John de Burley, "chivaler"; John Devereux, "chivaler"; and Ralph de Statum, Esq.; the plaintiff was Monsr John de Massy de Tatton, the defendant John de Massy de Potington,

[1] "The Visitation of Cheshire," 1580, edited by J. Paul Rylands, F.S.A., *Harl. Soc.*, xviii. 170.

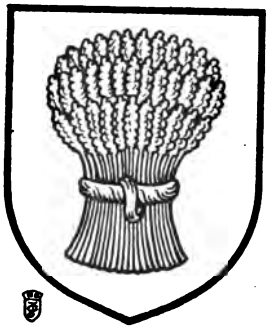
[2] *Harl. MSS.*, 1178, fo. 44b; 1424, fo. 98; 1507, fo. 201 ["The Ancestor," ix. 217].

and the matter in dispute, the Arms: Quarterly, Or and Gules, a lion passant Argent, "en le premir quater de Gueles." The award, dated at Glouster, 14th November 1378, was that the defendant should bear, "d'Or et de Gules quaterles, a trois fleurs-de-lys d'Argent en les quaters de Gueles;"[1] and the plaintiff, "quaterles, a trois escalops d'Argent en les quartiers de Gueles."

It is a curious coincidence that in the well-known armorial controversy, Scrope *versus* Grosvenor, over



SCROPE



GROSVENOR

the right to the arms, Azure, a bend Or, which commencing in 1385 was finally adjudicated upon by the king in 1390, "Sir John Mascy of Tatton, aged 50 and more," and "Sir John Mascy of Podynton, aged 30 and more," were both amongst Scrope's witnesses.[2] The case of course went against the Grosvenors, who thenceforward bore Azure, a garb Or. Probably few admirers of the great racehorse "Bend Or" ever knew or cared about the origin of his name.

The Masseys were a Catholic family, and took

[1] This blason differs from the arms always ascribed to the Puddington family, which are—"Quarterly, Gules and Or, in the first and fourth quarters three fleur-de-lys, Argent."

[2] "The Ancestor," ii. 154.

their part in the wars from the Middle Ages onwards until the time of William Massey the Jacobite, the last of his line, who, escaping from Preston when the rebel army surrendered, swam his horse over the Mersey between Speke and Hooton, and reached his Hall at Puddington, only to be arrested and die in Chester gaol. The spot where his gallant horse fell dead is still pointed out in the farmyard.

An allusion to the religion of the Masseys is contained in a curious old song, entitled "Certayne verses written by a Werralyte to the tune of 'Upp, Willye, its tyme to ryse,' 1615," which describes the journey and adventures of a hare, which, starting from near the Point of Air in Flintshire, runs first to Talacre and Mostyn, and crossing to Dawpool by a "botte well laden with cole," travels along the Dee bank until she reaches Chester. Our local Beagle Hunt is second to none and boasts some record runs, but its members may well envy sportsmen of yore the privilege of hunting so stout a hare.

"Ore Burton Hill to Puddingeton Halle
There she would be bould to calle,
And she hoped that she might pass
For he was att service and she was at mass.
The hare did shoute as she went bye,
And then they came out with a gallant crye.
Ye hare did think ye world went rounde
4 huntinge hornes at once did sounde."[1]

The payment of tithe in Puddington township is thus set forth in a document attached to the tithe map in the Diocesan Registry at Chester—

The Moduses or Prescription or Customary Payments and Easter Offerings payable . . . in this township are as follows:—

One load of hay from a certain meadow called the Big Meadow, being part of the Ancient Demesne of Puddington in lieu of the Tithe of Hay growing on the Ancient Demesne of Puddington comprizing about 565 statute acres.

[1] *Wirral Notes and Queries*, ii. 19.

For every cow and calf three halfpence. For every barren cow One Penny. For every colt Twopence. For every hive of bees One Penny. For every Flock of Sheep One Shilling. Egg Penny and Smoke Penny.

Smoke penny, or "smoak money," was a small tax paid to the ministers in lieu of tithe wood,[1] and Egg penny no doubt a similar tax.

In conclusion, the thanks of the author are due to the Rev. Patrick F. A. Morrell, who generously placed the Registers and Church Papers of Burton at his disposal, besides rendering much help; to the Rev. Canon Turner of Neston and the Rev. F. R. Wansbrough of Shotwick, for the use of their Registers; to Lieutenant-Colonel John Pilkington, F.S.A., for the gift of several negatives; to Mr. James A. Waite for his skill in taking others; to Mr. W. F. Irvine, F.S.A., for his advice and assistance in preparing these notes.

[1] *Notes and Queries*, 6 S., ii. 111.

APPENDIX

INSCRIPTIONS IN THE CHURCHYARD

Headstone—

Here rests the body of | Thomas Pickance | youngest son of John and Alice Pickance great grandson of | John Pickance the friend of Bishop Wilson | and a lineal descendant of Samuel Wilson | the bishops eldest brother | Born April 9. 1816. Fell asleep Aug. 27. 1880.

Altar tomb.—Here lies interred the | Body of John Pickance | of Burton gen^t who | when living was a kind | Husband, a tender parent | and sincere friend he | died universally lament | -ed the 9th day of Novemb^r | 1751 Age^d 57 [1] | Also the Body of Elizabeth | Widow of the above said | John Pickance with an | unblemished character | she departed this life | the 20th day of June 1791 | Aged 76 years | Also Samuel son of John | & Alice Pickance who died | 10th Feby 1841 Aged 28 years. |

Flagstone.—Here lieth the Body | of John son of John | and Elizabeth Pickance | of Burton, who departed | this life March 15. 1778 | Aged 45 | Also Ann his wife died June 21 | 181.. Aged 7(0?) | Also John Pickance son | of the above who departed this | life on the 9th of January 18[? 5]2 | Aged 86 years | Also Alice Pickance relict | of the above who departed this | life on the 21 of May 1862 | Aged 98 years | Also Eliza Pickance | died May . . . 1877 aged 83 years |

Affixed to either end of an altar tomb on south side of church are two brasses, viz. at west end—

Here Lyeth | the Body of | John Edge [2] | of Neston | Who Departed this Life | August the 22^d 1776 | Aged 54 years |

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[1] Buried 11 Nov. 1751, aged 57 (Register).

[2] In the Name of God Amen, I John Edge of Great Neston in the County of Chester, Gentleman, Do make this my last will and testament . . . I give and devise all my messuages, lands [&c.] . . . in Great Neston and Little Neston . . . unto my daughters Hannah Edge and Catherine Edge their heirs and assigns for ever . . . subject to . . . an annuity of Five pounds . . . unto Margaret Whitehead . . . [also] the use of the furniture of a room until my youngest

At east end—

Here lie the Remains of | Catherine | Relict of the Revd G. H. Larden M.A.[1] | A Minor Canon | In the Cathedral Church of Chester | and Daughter of | John and Catherine Edge | Born May 28. 1763 | Died Nov 15 1839 |

Headstone—

Here . . . | th the body | of John Meo | les who dyed | September the | 24th 17[1 ?]0 [2]

Flagstones.—Elizabeth Walls died | 1762 |

Here lies the Body of | Joseph Wilson of Burton | who died January the 5th | 1733 Aged 52 | Also Susannah Branthwai^t | his Daughter who died | December the 8th 1774 | Aged 60 | Here Alſo lieth the Body | of Elizabeth Johnson | Daughter of the above | Susannah Branthwaite | who died the 15th of | July 1783 | Aged 37. |

On the north side of the church a sandstone cross—

In loving memory | of | Arthur Court, | who died April 8th 1886 | Aged 38. |

On a flat stone with floriated cross—

William Congreve born Aug 5th 1831, | entered into rest Jan. 4th 1902, [text]

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daughter come to the age of twenty one years . . . unto Mrs Josephine Hayes and Mrs Josiah Wheatley ten pounds apiece . . . unto Thomas Edge, Mary Parker of Liverpool widow, and Ellen Bailey of Mickle Trafford widow five pounds apiece . . . to the Minister and Churchwardens of Great Neston . . . twenty pounds . . . [for] the poor . . . either by the distribution of bread on Sundays or in such manner [&c.] . . . in case I shall die before the house I am now building in Great Neston be finished . . . executors [shall] compleat . . . the same [Rest to two daughters]

[Appoints] Joseph Hayes, Josiah Wheatley & Margaret Whitehead Ex^rs.

[Dated] 9 May 1775. John Edge.

Witnesses—

Robt Dod
Edm^d Lyon Junr
John Williams

Proved 22 April 1779 at Chester by Margaret Whitehead ; power reserved to other Ex^rs

[1] There is in Neston churchyard a M.I. to Hannah Maria, only child of John & Kezia Larden of Gt. Neston, d. 20 Jan. 1810 aged 14. Also John Larden MD son of John Larden Esq. of Tattenhall & Hannah Edge of Neston & Father of the above. Born Oct. 19. 1780 & Died Nov. 29. 18[? 5]3.

[2] Buried 26th Sept. 1710 (Register)

Recumbent granite cross—

Walter Ralph Congreve, | born July 26th 1840, entered into rest October 15th 1900 | [text].

White marble cross on steps—

Harriet | Frances Congreve | fell asleep | Decr 4th 1892, aged 78 years.

Grey granite cross—

To the honoured | and beloved memory of | Richard Jones Congreve | born 8 Feb. 1805 died 9 Jan. 1879 | two infant daughters rest beside him | this stone is erected by | his sorrowing wife | [south side] Also of his wife | Louisa Margaret Congreve | died 19 Dec. 1880 | aged 65.

Marble cross on steps—

In loving memory of | Charles Henry Congreve | born August 5th 1820 fell asleep in Jesus Eastertide April 6th 1875. | [On back of step (west side)] Also in memory of | Etheldred Victoria Frances, | his wife | died January 20th 1893 aged 68. |

Flat stone with coped top, north-east corner of church—

MARIANNE CONGREVE, | DEPARTED THIS LIFE JUNE 10TH 1871, AGED 91. | *In humble hope of a Blessed Resurrection* | *through the alone merits of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.* |

Stone cross, north side of churchyard—

IN MEMORIAM | THOMAS DUNN, M,A, | 17 YEARS VICAR OF THIS PARISH, | WHO DIED MAY 23RD 1893, | AGED 60 YEARS. |

Red granite cross, north side, on base of cross—

"BLESSED ARE THE DEAD WHICH DIE IN THE LORD: EVEN SO SAITH THE SPIRIT FOR THEY REST FROM THEIR LABOURS."

TO THE DEAR MEMORY OF
Ralph Congreve
for many years
Priest of this Parish
and of Emily his wife
Who were both taken to their rest
In November 1879
And of their little daughter
Frances Eliza
Whom Jesus called to himself August 1846.
"Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

At north-east corner of church a sarcophagus of red stone, the flat top carved with a cross in imitation of the old cross which is on the wall in the tower. On foot of cross—

E.U.
JUNE 2ND
1858

Round three sides of the tomb—

IN MEMORY OF EDITH ELDEST CHILD OF CHARLES STUART | AND ELIZABETH | UPPERTON. BORN JUNE 1ST DIED JUNE 2ND 1858. |

Here lyeth the Body of the Revd | Mr Robert Washington late Minister | of Burton who departed this life | July . . . 1757[1] aged . . . years | Also Rebecca his Wife who died | June the 9. 1771 |

The Vicar has recently uncovered several tombstones, some of them much worn. One, on the south side of the church, is completely illegible, except that at the foot can be deciphered, "Jonathan Wilson," in late eighteenth or early nineteenth century letters—unless recut. Another close by reads: Here lieth the | Body of Mary | wife of Willim | Woods who | Departed thi[s] | life the 10[2] | November | 1763.

Here lies the | Body of Eliz | abeth wife of | Edward [Calkin] | who departed | this life Feb. 20[3] A.D. 17 . . . Alſo | Mary her Da | ughter who | died . . . | AD 17 . . .

"PARISH REGISTERS BURTON, ANNO DÑI 1538."

[The customary preamble states that the register begins in the twentieth year of the raigne of Kinge Henrie the Eight—an error of ten years.

Where a will is said in footnote not to be at P.C.C. a period of five years from death has been examined. Where an entry here given disagrees with Ormerod's statement it has been checked with the register.]

Mr Arthur Glegg et Mris Ales[4] Massie conjunct fuerunt in matrimoñ xxiij° die Novembris.

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[1] He was buried 2nd August. See Register Extracts.

[2] Much worn; she was buried 12th November.

[3] Buried 22nd 1758. Edward Calkin was buried 7th Jan. 1776. Mary baptized 1730.

[4] Ormerod calls her Eleanor in his pedigree of Massey of Puddington.

Thomas Meols filius Johannis Meols bapt fuit xxij die January [1538–9].

Robt. Meols filius Robti Meols baptiz fuit quinto die Martii [1538–9].

Sr Richard Glaseor sepult fuit xx die Augusti 1539.

Jane Massie filia Johañs Massie sepult fuit xxvj° die Augusti [1539].

Thoms Meols filius Johannis Meols sepult fuit xiiij° die Septembris [1539].

Thomas Moores & Margareta Massie commis. fuerunt in matrimonio xxix° die January 1540.

Jane Massie filia Johannis Massie baptiz fuit xviij° die February 1540–1.

Willm Meols filius Johannis Meols baptiz fuit xiij die Julii 1541.

The Welch chil' baptiz fuit xxvj° die Septembris 1541.

Rych'. Meols filius Johañs Meols baptiz fuit xxiij° die Martii 1542–3.

Jane Meols filia Johñs Meols baptiz fuit xiiij die Februarij 1543–4.

Thoms Meols filius Willm Meols sepult fuit xxvj° die Februarii.

1544.

David Massie & Jane Hodgson comis. fuerunt in matrimoñ. xxviij° die septembris.

1545.

Sr Bryan Watmoūth sepult fuit xxvij die septembris.

1546.

Thoms Glegg filius Arthuri glegg armig, baptiz fuit iiij Augusti.

Ellena Massie uxor Robti Massie sepult' fuit x° die Augusti.

1547.

Henricus Meols filius Johns Meols bapt fuit xvij° die Martii.

Gyll Meols baptiz. fuit xvij die Septembris. [There is a surname Gyll in the parish.]

Robts Massie et Anne Pemberton commis fuerṭ in matrimoñ xx° die Novembris.

Thoms Massie filius Mr Willm Massie sepult fuit viii° die Januarii.

1548.

Johns Massie sepult fuit xiiij die Aprilis.

Sr Hugh Massie sepult fuit xix° die Novembris.

1549.

Thoms Wilson filius [ff?] Petri Wilson bap fuit xxvj° die Januarii.

1550.

Mr John Meoles et Catherina Massie commis. fuerunt in matrimoñ v° die Maij.

Elizabeth Massie sepult fuit xj° die Octobris.

Ales Meols filia Johñs Meols bapt fuit xxvij° die Decembris.

1551.

Sr John Massie Knight sepultus fuit decimo sexto die Julij.

Wiłłms Techett et Catherina Massie commis fuerunt in matrimoñ quinto die Decembris.

1552.

Christian Massie filia Mr Wiłłm Massie baptizata fuit v° die Martii.

1553.

Petrus the Portingale sepult fuit xviij° die Septembr.

Agnes Massie filia Robti Massie sepult fuit xvij° die Decembr'.

1554.

Hugh Massie filius Robti Massie sepult fuit viij° die Maij.

Robts Massie sepult fuit xxvj° die Augusti.

1555.

Jeffrey Robynson et Anna Massie commis fuerunt in matrimoñ xvij° die Novembris.

1556.

Richardus Bowde et Anna Massie commis fuert in matrimoñ xxvij die Januarii.

1557.

Catherine Massie uxor Johñs Massie milit. sepulta fuit iij° die Novembris.

1558.

Geffrey Massie filius Johañis Massie milit. sepult fuit xix° die Martii.

Richardus Bowd gent. sepultus fuit xiv° die Aprilis 1558.

Elizabeth Meols filia Johñs Meols sepult fuit xxxj° die Aprilis.

Johns Carter[1] et Jane Massie copulat fuerunt in matr. xxiiij° die Julii.

Patrik Wilson sepul' fuit vj die Decembris.[2]

Henricus Trafford filius Mathew Trafford bapt fuit v° die Aprilis.

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[1] Query, the curate of Shotwick, who lies buried under a flagstone in the chancel there in accordance with his will.

[2] His will is not at Chester or P.C.C.

1559.

Richardus Harvie et Ellena Meales com. fuerſt in matrimonio xvj° die Julii.

Fraunces Bamvell et Ellena Massie comis fuerſt in matrimoſl iiij die Septembris.

Robts Moueles et Jane Massie comis fuerunt in matrimoſl xviij die Decembris.

1560.

Thoms Massie et Catherina Bale [? Ball] comis fuerunt in matrimoſl xxj° die Januarii.

Anna Meols filia Johns Meols bapt fuit xv° die Septembris.

Jane Massie filia Tho Massie bapt fuit xxij° die Septembris.

1562.

Margareta Massie filia Jeffrey Massie sepult fuit xxiij° die Februarii.

Jane Meols filia Johns Meols sepult fuit xv° die Novembris.

Robt Meols sepult fuit xxvij die Novembris.

1563.

[Anna?] Meols bap fuit xxvij die Julii.

Thomas Massie et Elizabeth Robyns comis fuerſt in matrimoſl xxij° die Novembris.

1563.

Ales Massie filia Thomā Massie bapt fuit xiij° die Januarii.

1565.

S: Robt Swetnam sepū fuit vij° die Martij.

1566.

Dns Johns Sturdych doctor divinitat9 sepult fuit iiij° die Februarii.

Johanna Meols filia Johns Meols bap fuit xxvii° die Octobris.

1567.

Johanna Meols filia Johns Meols sepulta fuit xix° die Januarii.

Mrs Margerie Massie sepulta fuit iiij die Junii.

Ellena Massie filia Thomā Massie bapt fuit xxiiij die Octobris.

1568.

Jane Massie uxor [? Jo] Massie sepult9 fuit xx° die Augusti.

Mrs Anna Massie uxor Willm Massie Armig. sepulta fuit xxx° die Novembris.

M: Thomas Trafford et Ales Massie comis fuerunt in matrimoſl ij° die Decembris.

1569.

Ellena Massie sepult fuit vi° die Maij.

1570.

Ales Massie filia David Massie baptiz fuit xxx° die Maij.

1571.

Thoms Wilson sepult fuit xv° die Junij.[1]

Richardus Massie filius Georgii Massie bapt fuit xxj° die Decembris.

Willms Trafforde filius Thomæ Trafford gener. bapt fuit iiij die Septembris.

1572.

John Meols sepult fuit xv° die Januarii.

Catherine Massie filia Tho. Massie bapt fuit xv° die Februarii.

Jane Meols vid sepul[9] fuit iij die Augusti.

Willms Trafford filius Tho. Trafford gener. iiij bapt fuit iiij die Februarii 1573.

1573.

Robt Meols et Ellena Langley comis fuerunt in matrimoll vj° die Decembris.

1574.

Anna Trafforde filia Tho Trafford gener. bap fuit x° die Maij.

Robt Meols filius Robt Meols bapt fuit xxiij° die Novembris.

1575.

Ryc. Meoles et Anne Burges comis fuerunt in matrimoll x° die Julij.

1576.

Ales Meols filia Ryc. Meols bap fuit xj° die Martii.

1577.

Edwardus Aphugh et Ellena Massie comis fuerunt in matrimoll xvij die Julii.

John Meols filius Robt Meols bapt fuit xxvij° die Septembris.

1578.

Catherina Meols filia Ryc Meols bapt fuit xij° die Decembris.

1579.

Mr Willms Massie Esquire dyed the iiij° die Junij et sepult fuit[2] ix° [?] die Junij.

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[1] His will is not at Chester or P.C.C.

[2] Ormerod says he was buried the same day.

Johns Massie et Elizabeth Baull [?] comis fuerunt in matrimoñ iiij die Octobris.

Rowland Massie et Anna Jannion comis fuerunt in matrimoñ xxvij° die Decembris.

1580.

Johns Massie et Johns Massie filii Rowland Massie Bap et sepult fuerunt xxiij Februarii.

Willm Massay filius Johañs Massay Armñ baptiz ix° die Augusti A° Dñi 1580.

[Above is inter-written.]

David Massie sepult fuit iiij die Novembris.

Jane Massie sepult fuit xxx° die Decembris.

1581.

Thomas Meals sepul fuit xviij° Februarii.

Doraty Massie filia Rowlandi Massie baptizata fuit xxiiij° die Maij.

1581.

Alles Meals filia Robti Mealce bap fuit xvj° die Martii.

Johns Meals filius Ryc Meals bap fuit xi° die Januarii.

1584.

Willm Wilson et Margarete Telleck [? faded] comis fuerṭ in matrimon ij° die Maij.

1585.

Petrus Ridgate et Ales Trafford comis fuerunt in matrimon xxviij° die februarii.

1586.

Sr Thomas Harvie Curate de Burton sepultus fuit xix die Junii A° Dni 1591.

[There are very few entries 1586–91; they have apparently been neglected.]

Anno Dñi 1591.[1]

Catherina Massie de Burton vid sepulta fuit xiiij° die Septembris.

Catherina Massie filia Johns Massie de Burton bap fuit xxij° die Septembris.

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[1] In this year was proved the will of a Wilson who seems to have had some connection with the district.

In dei noīe amen the xix^th^ daye of August in the yeare of our lorde god 1591 I Richard Wilson [of Chester] sicke in bodye . . . to be huryed in the pishe churche of St Peters [Chester] To my daughter

Gullelmus (?) Moores de Puddington et Alicia Massie de Burton comis fuerunt in matrimon iij° Novembris.

Thoms Moores de Puddington et Catherina Massie wear wedded iij° die Novembris.

1592.

Rychard Meals de Burton sepult fuit xxix° die Septembris.

Alice Meals de Burton vid sepulta fuit xxiiij° die Decembris.

1593.

Henicus Comes Darbie sepultus fuit in Ormschurch quarto die Decembris.

Richardus Mieles [?] et Elizabeth Hamp[ton] comis fuerunt in matrimon xxiiij die Januarii.

1594.

Furdinando comes darbie sepult fuit in Ormschurch viii° die Maij.

1595.

George Cottingham filius Roberti Cottingham bapt fuit vij° die Julii.[1]

Marye my best goune over and above hir childs pte . . . residue to be divided emonge my children.

Executors Anne my wife and Thomas Ball of Boughton.

Supervisors, dear friends Thomas Brabant my brother in lawe and Thomas Ball of the Citie of Chester.

Witnesses, Thomas Ball, Thomas Ball [*sic*] Thomas Brabant, Rauffe Higinford.

Among the testators debtors occur the names of—

William Monelye of Westkirkbye.
Robert Picke in Westkirkebye pishe.
John Anion of Thursteston.
Thomas Andrewe of Cawdaye.
Richard Platt of Weskirkbye.
Henry Linaker of same.
Thomas Denison of Nesse.
John Fletcher of Little Neston.
[blank] Gowlborne the smythe of Saugan.
Richard Wilson of Whidbye.

Proved 7 Sept 1591 Chester [Calendared 1592 but?].

Inventory dated 1591 is prised by, among others, William Shurlocke and from such entries as Five dusane of showes for women iij^{li} v^{s}, knives, &c., the testator was evidently a shoemaker.

[1] The will of Robert Cottingham of Ledsham in the County of Chester, yeoman sick in body is dated the tenth day of November iv James 1606. To be buried in Neston Churche in the usuall place my Auncestors before me have bynn buryed

To my sone George Cottingham my lease of my house with all lands and howses according to the true meaning of my fathers will, my best iron bound wagon, two ploughes . . . one yoke of oxen called

1596.

John Edge filius Jhñs Edge de Milton green in paroch de Handley bap fuit vi° [?] Septembris.

Wiłłm Wilson de Burton sepultus fuit xxi Maii 1600.[1]

Laurence Boulton [?] an ensign coming from Ireland was Buryed the xxx die Maij 1600.

Johñes Cottingham filius Robti Cottingham de Ledsham bap fuit viij die Junii 1600.

Georgius Massay armiger p̄ses [?] de puddington migravit hanc vitam xxxi° [?] die Augusti et sepultus fuit decimo quinto die Septembris A° Dni 1600.[2]

Pyke and palm . . my best featherbedd &c. six silv^d spoons which my father left as an eyre loome

To my daughter Elizabeth Cottingham xl^li To my daughter Dorathie Cottingham xl^li To my daughter Ann Cottingham xl^li To my daughter Marie Cottingham xl^li and what more my brother John Cottingham shall think fytt.

I give my wo^ull and loveing Mr John Massye Esqr. my best bald colt and to my young Mr William Massye gent. my other bald colt desyring them for God sake to see that my son George Cottingham be not wronged.

Itm I give to Neston Churc'ıe vj^s Itm to Burton Churche iij^s iiij^d to Shotwick Churche iij^s iiij^d To Thomas Massye one heiffer calf. Itm in regard and respect of my wyfes badd dealing and in that she hath her howse in Thor̄ton and other goods upon former agreem̄t I leave her xx nobles in full satisfaccon of all her claymes.

Rest to my son George Cottingham [under 22] and makes him, and George Manwaring of Shotwick p̄ke gentleman, Thomas Cottingham of Neston pv̄a yeoman, John Cottingham of Shotwick yeoman, and William Fletcher of Willeston husbandman, Executors.

Itm. I doe humblie entreate my loveing Mr John Massye Esqr, my young M^r Wiłłm Massye gentleman and Thomas Massye yeoman Overseers to [&c.]. Witnesses, John Taylor of Ledsham, Thomas Cross [? Croft] John Bushell, John Fletcher, Pet: Blinston Cr.

Debts which I owe. John Bushell my sonne in lawe liij^li vj^s viij^d [et al:] Debts owing unto mee—my sisterinlawe Ann Owyn [blank]. Pro 17 Nov. 1606 by John Cottingham at Chester.

[1] His will is not at Chester or P.C.C.

[2] In the name of God Amen the sixth daie of maie xxxij Eliz. [1590] I George Massie of Potington in the County of Chester . . . to be buried in my tombe in Burton if I die at Potington—according to my degree and calling. I give to the pishiōns of Burton Church toward the repairing of the church x^s and to the poore of the same pish vj^s viij^d Whereas my sonne in lawe Edwarde Penruddocke esquier before mariage of him with my daughter Marie nowe his wieff was contented and fullie agreed that the somme of three hundreth marks due and payable by my brother John Massie . . . after my death if I happen to dye without heires or heire male . . . should be disposed to person or persons I should nōiate . . . without any chalendge to be made thereunto by the said Edwarde or Marie as by articles of

Johns Done Armgr. et m^ris^ Jane Hurlston de Potingto . . . fuerunt in matrimonio xxv° die Novembris 1600.

M^ris^ Doritie massie uxor Geo . . . Massie (dec^d^ ?) de Potingto xxvij° die Novembris 1600.[1]

Elizabetha Massey uxor Johnis Massey de Potingt armiger sepulta fuit nono die Novembris [1602].

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agrēēt . . . betweene me and the said Edwarde and bearing date the third daie of June in the xxvij year of her ma^ties^ reigne more at large appeareth, I the said George doe . . . assigne the said somme of three hundreth marks to the said Marie my daughter . . . & I further give to the said Edward and Marie [or either ? (faded)] of them one gold ringe price xx^s^ with a death head engraved for a remembrance and to George Penruddocke my nephewe I . . . (faded out) [Leaves] 100 marks to be employed . . . ? (faded) for the necessary uses [?] of my daughter Jane Hurleston and to her first child iij^li^ vi^s^ viij^d^. To my son in lawe John Hurleston Esquier and to my said daughter Jane a gold ring. To my cosin Sir Randle Brereton . . . (faded) my cosin Richard [?] Bold . . . I bequeath . . . neece [?] Elizabeth . . . ? xx^s^ . . . neece Dorothie (Trafford ?). Unto Elizabeth . . . ?

[The will now becomes so faded that little or nothing of the small writing can be read.] The rest . . . to my said [loving wieff ?] Dorothie Massie trustinge she will be found a naturall mother unto our children and makes her Executrix. And I doe heartelie desire my said Cosen Sr Randle Brereton Knighte and Richard [?] Bould esq^r^ to be overseers. To my lovinge frend Randle Cotgreave whom I put in trust to write this my said last will . . . one ould Royall for a remembrance.

Witnesses Randle Cotgreave John Okes.

Pro. 23 Nov. 1600 at Chester.

This will as originally endorsed made the testator of Bollington; this had been subsequently altered to Bebington, it has now been correctly written Potington.

[1] The will of Dorothie Massie, beinge sicke, dated the xiiij daye of Maye 1600. Unto my Cosine Thurstane Tildesley of myrescoughe xxiij^li^, one silver cane, one silver salte and one dozen of silver spoones. Unto my Cosine William Tildesley iij^li^ x^s^ and one hoope ringe of gould. Unto my mother iiij^li^ vi^s^ viij^d^ dewe unto me by my Aunte Prestwish her last will. Unto my Aunte Tatnei [? Tatton—testator's maternal aunt Dorothy Booth married Robert Tatton of Withenshaw] a ringe. [Legacies to] my Cosine Marye Tildesley, my Cosine Anne Breeche, my brethren John Richard and James . . . my saide sister Anne my cosine . . . ? my . . . ? Richard Tildesley . . . Edward Langtree, Dorothie Massie doughter of Richarde Massie my saide brother, Richarde and Anne children of the saide Richarde Massie, Edwarde, Anne and Thomas Tildesley my saide cosine Thurstane Tildesley his children, William Richardson of Myrescoughe. Rest to my saide cosine Thurstane Tildesley and makes him and William Tildesley and the saide Wiłłm Richard[son] Executors.

Witnesses, John Whittingham John Cletherall. Debts owing unto me Mr John Massie and his sonne, my brother James Massie [et al]

Pro. 23 Sep. 1605 by Thurstan Tildesley at Chester. Inventory 10July 1605 £ 32, Silver and other personal effects.

Serenissima Regina Elizabetha discessit hanc vitam vicessimo tertio die Martij 1602. The Highe and mightie prince James by the grace of god of England Fraunce and Ireland Kinge and of Scotland the xxxj° was proclaymed King of theis his ma^ties Kingdomes the xxxiiij° of March 1602 and was crowned the feast day of St James thappostle next after ensuinge in uppon whom god . . . ? and defende from traytrous conspiracies A° 1603.

Anna Edge filia [Jo ?] Edge de Milton greene Bapt fuit xxo° die decembris in poc de Hondley 1604.

Elizabetha Coventrye filia Robti Coventrye sepulta fuit xxvij° die Februarii 1605.

Elizabeth Edge filia Johñis Edge Baptiz fuit apud Whytney in Com. Oxoniæ secundo die Decembris 1607.

George Manwairinge gent de Shotwick Parke sepultus fuit xxviii° Maij 1608.[1]

Mrs Jane [Mullenyx?] sepulta fuit xxv° die Novembr 1608.

M^r Wiłłm Massey filius Wiłłm Massey de Puddington Armiger Baptizat fuit in Welchpoole in Com Mungm̄erysh. vicesimo septo die Novembris [1609].

Mr John Massey armiger mortuus est vicesimo primo die Aprilis et sepultus fuit secundo[2] die Maij 1610.[3]

Johñs Massie filius Wiłłm Massie armiger Baptiz fuit secundo die Februarii 1610.

John Massey de Burton sepultus fuit septimo die Julii 1612.

Edwardus Massey filius Wiłłm Massey de Puddington armiger Baptiz fuit xx° die Decembris 1612.

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[1] The Inventory of George Manweringe late of Shotwicke Parke in the Countie of Chester, gentleman, now preserved at Chester is dated the last daye of Maye 1668, made by James Doe, Richard Chamberlayne, John Helyn, Thomas Whitehead, and consists of cattle, horses, swine, powtery [poultry], plowes, household gear, three tackes of ground—tooe in great Saughall and one in Mollington, corne upon the ground at Woodbanke, Saughall, and Cappenhurst.

Proved 16 July 1608 at Chester.

[2] Ormerod says he was buried 7th.

[3] The will of John Massey of Puddington co Chester Esquier, sicke in bodie, is dated 17 April 1610. To be buried in Burton Church. To Robert Burton my servant x^li. To John Cottingham my servant twentie nobles. To William Barlow my servant twentie nobles. To Wiłłm Harcott twentie nobles, all the rest of my serving men fyve markes apeese . . . To Anne Brewer my base daughter xx^li to be paid to John Venables gentleman [she under 21]. To the Church of Burton xx^s. To Peter Blinston Curat of Burton vj^s viij^d. Rest unto my sonne Wiłłm Massie and makes him Executor. Legacies to Thomas Smith, Edward Kniveton and olde John Whitefild.

Witnesses—John Venables, Peter Blinston, Thomas Smith.

Pro. 29 Jan. 1616 by the Executor, at Chester.

Georgius Massey filius Wiłłm Massey de Puddington armiger baptiza fuit vicessimo tertio die Decembris 1613.

The frames of the Bells weare made this year by Arald [?] Watte of Chester and Oliv̄ Wilson of Burton and were finished the xxiiij daie of December 1613.

Charlee Massey filius Wiłłm Massey de Puddington armiger Baptiz tertio Aprilis [1616].

The High and mightie king James king of great Brittaine came to Chester the xxviij day of August 1617.

Herbart Massie filius dñi Willm Massie Milit. Baptiz fuit xxxjth of August 1617.

The steeple was pointed this yeare at Bartholus tyde by men of Liverpoole 1617.

Margaretta Wilson sepulta fuit xxij^{mo} Martii 1617.[1]

Thomas Meoles filius Johañ Meoles Bap fuit xvj^{to} Aug. 1618.

Elizabeth Meoles filia Jo Meoles de Burton sepulta fuit vij^{mo} die Septembris 1617.

Maria Massey filia dñi Wiłłm Massey Milit nata fuit xvi^{t} die Octobris et Baptiz fuit xxnd quinto die Octobris 1618.[2]

Phulke Edwardes clarke to Mr George Massey and S^{r} Wiłłm Massey Knight was buryed the xxiij of November 1618.

Randle Aynsworth & Catherine Meoles conj. fuerunt in matrimonio xxvij^{mo} die Aprilis 1619.

Edward Tarvyn et Catherine Massie weare married the first daie of Maie [1619].

William Cottingham filius Georgii Cottingham de Ledsham [?] Baptiz fuit decimo tertio die Junii 1619.

Mr Thoms Parsivall of the Citie of Chester Bayliffe to Sir

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[1] A true . . Inventory of all the goods wch were Margret Willson's of Burtoun, latelye deceased, praysed by John Robin the younger and Raphe Lightfoot, the vjth day of August 1618—

Imp^{s} one litle ould pott	ij^{s}	vj^{d}
I^{t} two pewter dishes		viij^{d}
I^{t} one litle coursle? coverlet		xviij^{d}
I^{t} tonge pothooke rackirons & brandret . . .		ij^{s}
I^{t} one broach		xiij^{d}
I^{t} one Cupboarde		ij^{s}
I^{t} one trestle & one litle boarde and one turnell .		xvj^{d}
I^{t} one paire of bedstocke, two litle formes & litle ould coofer		xx^{d}
Summa totalis . .	xij	viij

[This Inventory is preserved in Chester Diocesan Registry; there is no act book at the Probate Registry 1617–24.]

[2] Ormerod says *bap.* 16th.

Tho: Smith Knight xxviij yeares at Burton was buried the viij [faded] daie of August 1619.[1]

Catherine Massey filia Wiłłm Massey milit de Puddington Baptiz fuit xxx^{mo}[2] die Martii 1620.

A Passenger from Ireland dyed in Puddington and was Buryed the xxxi daie of Mch^{9} 1620.

This year [1620] the midle bell was borred [?] through and mended uppon the pprr coste and charge of the inhabitants of Puddington and the inhabitants of Burton refussed to bee or pay any charge or money towards the mending of the midle bell But onelie yt was paid upon the charge of Puddington.

Richardus Massey filius Wiłłm Massey de Puddington Milit natus xvij^{mo} die Junii et Baptiz fuit xxiiij die Junii 1621.

Elizabetha Massey filia dñi Wiłłm Massey de Puddington Baptiz fuit xxi^{mo} die Julii 1622.

Charles Massey filius dñi Wiłłm Massey sepû fuit xxj ?^{mo}[3] die Novembris 1622.

Walterus Hyne and Marie Cottingham children of [Mr Willm ?] Hyne of Burton and George Cottingham of Ledsham weare Baptized the viijth daie of December 1622.

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[1] The will of Thomas Persevall . sicke . dated 25 daye of May 1619 was proved at Chester 10 August following by the executor. To be buried in the Marchants Iyle wheare my father was buried iij xx yeares and ix yeares since [*sic*] and not any buried then since in that grave My house to my lovinge wiffe Katheren Persevall and the Leasses of my crafte during the time of forty five yeares . . . and the leasses of my three stables . . the garden in the backeside which I purchased of Randall Smith. To my steppe brother William Fletcher x^{s} and to my other brothers children Peter Fletchers 3^{s} 6^{d} a peece and to my god sonne Thomas Fletcher v^{s}, the rest of my sister Hartes children v^{s} a peece. To my very good Frend Mr Thomas Berkenhead tenne poundes and to Mrs Margrett Berkenhead twentye shillings, and to my kinsman Thomas Wilcocke my cutte Sattan dublett, and to my kinde Frend George Allene my Goune garded with velvett. To Nichill [?] Johnes my new goun of my wiffes cloath makinge, to my cussen Edwarde Williams my ridinge coate lyned with greene and my boottes and a payre of good spurs. To Nichill [?] Johne's three childeren borne in my housse George Johnes, Katharen Johnes & Daverte Johnes vi^{s} viij^{d} a peece and praying my wiffe to be good to Ellin Johnes Nichill [?] Johnes his wiffe, to all the rest of my godchildren ij^{s} a peece ether Thomas or Persevall bearing my name saving tooe little boyes James Smyth and Peeter Hankinsse sonne. I give to my breetheren sadlers towarde the mending of the haule to make itt some thing better x^{s}. To cussen Peeter Lyghtffoote a mourninge cloake and cussen Sara Williams a goune. Wife Katheren sole executor and deare Frend Sr. Randall Manwaringe Knight overseer. To my godson Persevall Williams x^{s}

This written with my owne hande . . . Witnesses. George Allene, Glover, Nichill Jones, sadler.

[2] Ormerod gives this date as 16th.

[3] Ormerod gives this date as 26th.

Elizabetha Massie de Burton vid. sepulta viij Aprilis [1624].

Charles Massey the younger son of that nam[e] of Sr Willm Massey Knight was baptiz the xvi^th^ day of Aprill 1624.

Mrs Winyffred Herbart sister to the ladie Massie was Buryed the xvi^th^ daie of October 1624.

The highe and mightie kinge Charles kinge of great Brittaine and Ireland began to raigne the xxviij^th^ daie of m̃ch^9^ 1625 whom god longe Psr̃ve.

Anna Massey filia dñi Wiłłm Massey de Puddington Baptiz fuit xxiiij die Octobris 1625.

Willm Leather the sonne of Robert Leather of Puddington was baptiz the xiiii daie of October 1627.

Ellinor Wilson the Wyffe of Oliver Wilson was buryed the x[i?] daie of March 1628.[1]

John Wilson filius Jo Wilson de . . . baptiz fuit xxvj [March?] 1629.

Burton Milne was built new by S^r^ Wiłłm Massey knight about ye feast of all Saints in anno . . . 1629.

John Wilson filius Johanis Wilson sepult fuit vj^to^ die Aprilis 1630.

Mr Robt Tottie scholm^r^ att Pudington was buried the seacond day of September 1631.

Oliver Wilson de Burton sepult fuit xxix^o^ die January 1631.[2]

John Meales and Margaret Hewood weare maried by a Licence the second daye of Aprill [1635].

William sonne to John Meoles of Burton was baptized the 2th of August [1635].

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[1] Her will is not at Chester or P.C.C.

[2] In the name of God, Amen, I, Olyver Willson of Burton in the Countie of Chester, husbandman beinge sicke in bodye. To be buryed in the Parishe Churche or Church Yarde of Burton. To Jane Wrighte of Saughall vj^s^ viij^d^ to be payde unto her by my brother Henrye Whittle of Tho[rn?] tonne. Unto my godsonne Walter Hyne vj^s^ viij^d^. Unto my Cosin John Heawards sixe children Fower pounds . . which their Father doth owe unto mee. Debts owing unto mee—William Massie v^li^ xiiij^s^ Peter Hamond xxxij^s^ whereof I had fower measures of Oates in pte of paymente, William Crosse viij^s^ vj^d^, John Broughall iij^s^, William Heaward thelder xviij^d^, George Joanes x^s^, Randle Ownsley? v^s^, John Hamond xij^d^, Thomas Balshawe the younger v^s^. All the rest to my daughter in lawe Ales Willsonn. Sonne Thomas Willsonn and his wife Ales Willsonn executors. Dated 25 Januarye 1631.

Witnesses: Raphe Lightfoote, Thomas Sharpe [mark], John Heaward [mark], Frances Thomas, John Edwards [mark], Roberte Fletcher, Kidwalider ap Roberts [mark].

Inventory taken viij daye of Februarye 1631 xxviij^li^ vj^s^ vj^d^, includes Tenne measures of Rye xxvj^s^ viij^d^. Wood Coal & turves ij vj^d^. Debts oweing by bills and bonds xl^li^ by will xj^li^.

Tho: sonne of John Meoles of Burton was buryed the 20th of November 1635.

Thomas filius Henrici Trafford Clerici natus die Mercidii undecimo die Januarii inter horas trium et quatuor post meridiem et Baptizat 22° die Januarii predict 1636.

Jana filia Johannis Meoles Junior [Gent?] bapt vicesimo secundo die Januar 1630.

Memorandum that Roger Wilson and Elizabeth Cowper were maryed the 23th day of November Anno Dñi 1636 in pres[cence?] of manie whom they may name as occasion shall require by me.

Tho Evans.

Willmus Farrar generosus in progressu hiberniam submersus juxta Hilbree (ut aiunt) cum quadraginta aliis in Navicula Simonis Andrews de Thurstingtõ cujus negligentia pijt [periit] sepultus decimo septimo Augusti 1637.

Ellena Wilson filia Roger Wilson de Burton Baptizat xv° die Octobris 1637.

Robert Woods et Cecilia Meoles ambo de paroch [Neston?] Nupt fuerunt tricesimo Novembris 1637.

Thomas Trafford frater Henrici Trafford Clerici obiit primo vie Marcii et sepult apud Neston 2° ejusdem.

Thomas filius Henrici Trafford Clerici Baptizat et sepultus vicessimo nono die marcii 1638.

Thomas filius Johis Meoles Junior de Burton Baptized vicesimo nono die Julii 1638.

Maria filia Roger Wilson de Burton Baptizat decimo septo die Novembris 1638.

Robert Meoles de Burton sepult xij° Octobris 1640.

Hannah filia Roger Wilson de Burton Baptizat xv° die Novembris 1640.

Roger Wilson a churchwarden 1640.

Herbertus filius dñi Willm Massie de Pottington militis sepult (ut aiunt) 24 Decembris [1640].

Ellena filia Johis Meoles de Burton baptizat 24 Jan [1640].

Margreta uxor Johis Meoles de Burton sepult 31 Januar [1640–1].

[July] 1641.

This year from Midsomer till Michmas ye Plague was.[1]

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[1] To March 23, 1641/2 there are thirteen burials in the Register. Nine years later the plague again visited Burton. Doubtless the infection spread from Chester, where in 1647 the plague was raging "by reason whereof almost all persons of ability have left the city, there remaining for the most part only the poor." And so pitiful was the condition of affairs that Parliament authorised collections to be made in several of the southern and eastern counties of England for the relief of the

Memorandum that John Meoles of Burton and Ellen Ursull of St Brides parish in Chester were lawfully married upon the xv^th^ day of June 1641 by David Johnes Clarke.

Willmus filius Johis Meoles de Burton sepult Feb. 14 1641.

Jana Meoles vidua sepult decimio septimo die Febr. [1641].

Ellena filia Roger Wilson sepult xv° die August 1642.

Ellena filia Johis Meols de Burton sepult 13 Octobr [1642].

Hellena filia Roger Wilson de Burton Baptiz 18 Dec. [1642].

Carolus filius dñi Willmi Massie de Pottington Militis sepult (ut aiunt) 28° die Maij 1643.

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inhabitants. Norwich contributed £20 "put up in a bage . . . to be delliuered to the mayer of Chester."—[*Cheshire Sheaf*, 1 S. i. 94].

"The Plague" was a very malignant kind of fever of a bubonic nature which, under the name of the "Black Death," spread over Europe from China and the eastern extremity of the Mediterranean in the fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries. Its effects were horrible, and the victim generally died within a week, frequently in convulsions; many committed suicide, and the loss of life was appalling. On a moderate computation it may be assumed that there perished in Europe 25,000,000 human beings from this scourge.

The following scrap of evidence is from some incomplete depositions of (apparently) one Edward Dunsterville, and relates to the death and will making of Lucy Dunsterville, who lived at Denwall House, in Burton in Wirral, about 1650. The original is at the Bishop's Registry, Chester. The point in the case seems to be that Edward Dunsterville, owing to the prevalence of the plague, was not able to come to Chester for some time to prove the nuncupative will of his relative. Administration was granted at the Probate Court, Chester, to Edward Harman of Chester, gentleman, and James Travers, of the same, gentleman, of the goods of Lucy Dunsterville, widow, on the 5th October 1650.

It is interesting, and worth putting on record, as it gives us a little picture of the social life at this time, and we see the severe methods of isolation adopted to prevent the spread of the dread disease.

. . . The said Luce Dunstervile did utter her mynde and will as the deponent hath formerly deposed, the aforesaid Denwall House wherein she did then lyve was infected with the plague and the said Luce Dunstervile was then infected with that disease in the said house and the said Edward Dunsterville on the daye or night before her end beleeveth none durst come into the said roome where she dyed savinge some such as were shut upp with her in the same house.

2nd. That Captaine Puckle, the Deponent and Anne Davies were present when she the decedent made and delivered her will as aforesaid.

3rd. That for the space of . . . or thereabouts, the Deponent beleeveth that the articulate Anne Davies and he this Deponent could not be admitted to come to this Courte to be sworne and examined in this cause. That afterwards the said Anne Davies being infected with the plague, departed this lief before she could come to be examined in this cause.

Ellena filia Roger Wilson sepult Januar 30° 1643.

Lettitia filia Henric Trafford Nata die mercurii vizt vicessimo primo Februarii inter horas 4 & 5 post meridiem Baptizat fuit 25 ejusdem 1643.

Lettitia filia Henric Trafford Clerici sepulta fuit xxiiij die Marcii 1643.

Willms Baylie Miles sepult 26 die Maij 1644.

Jana filia Roger Wilson de Burton baptizat 16° die Novembris [1644].

September the 20th [1645] the Parliament forces entered the Suburbes of Chester the Forgatt Streete fired.

On Wednesday the 24th of September on Routon Moor and Hoole Heath were most terrible battayles fought between the King & parlamt wherein the parliamt partie preuayled.

The parliamt Armie entered into Wales the second time on Sunday September 28th.

Maria filia Johis Meoles de Burton Baptizat 15° die Aprilis 1646.

Robtus Eaton } nupt 27 Julij 1646.
Lidia Wilson }

Henricus Trafford Clericus olim de Burton Rector obiit vigesimo quarto die Augusti viz die Bartholomæi, inter horas quatuor et quinque post meridiem et sepultus decimo septimo die ejusdem mensis scilicet Augusti (apud Stoake) Anno Domini Milessimo sexcentesimo, quinquagesimo quarto 1654.[1]

Samuel Wilson son of Nathanell Wilson de Burton was baptized the 25th of March 1649.

James Willson the son of Nathanell Wilsō was Baptized the 25th of July 1652.

Joseph Willson son of Nathanell Wilson baptized the 10th of . . . [1653].

Memorandum that there hath not been any thing written in this Register from the yeare of 1646 untill the yeare of 1655 except [thees five names?] that are Registered [?] before by reson this Register was out of way and could not bee had.

The middle bell and great bell wheles were made this yeare by John Harper of Thorton (*sic*) Hough and were finished the 10th of July 1657.

Mary Wilson daughter to Roger Wilson was buryed the 30th July 1657.

Sarah daughter to Nathanell Wilson of Burton was baptized the 7th March 1657.

John Leather and Sarah Browne were married att Chester the 4th of August in the year of 1657 by Wm Ince Olderman.[2]

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[1] His monument at Stoake given in Ormerod seems now to have disappeared.

[2] His cottage, with his own, his wife's, and his son Timothy's initials on an inscribed stone in the gable end stills stands near the church.

William Massey the son of Edward Massey of Puddington Esquire was born the 13th of May and Baptized the[1] 15th of May 1658.

Elizabeth Wilson daughter to Thomas Wilson of Pottington was buryed the 21th march [1658].

Kathern Massey daughter to Edward Massey of Puddington Esquire was born the 12th day of June 1659.

Annah Willson daughter to Thomas Wilson of Puddington baptized the first day of January [1659–60].

Charles the second king of England Scotland & Ireland was p'claimed the fifteenth day of may whom god long preserve 1660.

Agneies Massy the daughter of Edward Massy of Puddington Esquire was borne the third day of June 1660.

Timothy Leather son to John Leather baptized the twenty first day of Aprill 1661.

Thomas Wilson of Puddington dyed at Dublin In Ireland the 15th day of July and was buryed the same day [1661].[2]

Benjamin Wilson son to Nathaniell Wilson of Burton baptized the 28th day of July 1661.

Richard Massy son to Edward Massy of Puddington esquire was born the thirteenth day of August 1661.

Mary Wilson the daughter of Thomas Wilson of Puddington was baptized 3 day November [1661].

Sisley Wilson Daughter [of] Jonathan Wilson of burton baptized ejusdem [*sic*] die mensis november.

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[1] Ormerod says born 15th.

[2] July 14, 1661.—The will & pleasure of Thomas Willson—hee maketh his wiffe Elzebeath Willson executrix of all his goods and chattles and she to give my brother Richard Willson 5£ sterling and 4£ to his mother Margreat Willson that is due to bee paid by William Willson of Lisket. To my doughter hannah three score pounds and if it please God that my wiffe bring forth a soon she to take the house and ?liveing ffor its liffe & he mentane her as long as she liveth and iff it bee a daughter hannah to have the house and liveing paying her her portion 60 my wife to have the b : leing off all and not to sell her Father any goods but what my brother Robart Willson shall thinke fitt of and iff he have not judgement in any thinge he to get sum assistance and I deseire my father and brother to assist my wiffe . . . but not to take anything from her, and as for my Aunt Elzabeth I leave to the will and pleasure wheether she keepe her or not . . .

Witnesses Matthew White.

. . . . ?

Mr. Bethell I desire you to be a comfort to my wiffe.

Endorsed as of Puddington—pro. by Geo. Eaton & Robt Wilson ulto Sept 1661.

Inventory praysed by Ralph Lightfoot and William Pickavance and John Leader £137. 10. 08 cattle, crops, one fourth of a barque called "Providence."

John the son of William Pickavance et . . . baptized 15th day December 1661.

Edward son to Edward Massy of Puddington Esquire was buryed the 15th day of February 1661.

Thomas son of Nathaniell Wilson was baptised December 25 1663. [This entry in a print hand in the margin.]

1664.

Burto. Alicia Wilsō vidua sepulta fuit 24 die Octobris.[1]

Burto. Johannes filius Jonethone Wilsō baptiz. fuit 20 Nov.

Burto. Johannes filius Thomæ Meoles baptiz ["sepult" erased] fuit 6 Aug.

1666.

Puddingto. Alicia uxor Edwardi Massey armigeri sepult. fuit 23 May.[2]

Burton. Mary the Daughter of Nathaniell Wilson baptizat. fuit 18th day of October 1666.

Burton. Thomas Hichcock and Jahne Meoolse were marryed the 25th day of October.

1667.

Burton. Daniell Pickanc soon to William Pickanc baptized the first day of March.

Burton. Mary daughter to Jonathan Wilson baptized the one and thirty day of March.

Christian the wife of John Litherland minister buryed the 4th day of December [1669].

Margaret daughter to Thomas Meooles of burton baptized the 16 of Januarry [1669–70].

Dorothy daughter to William Pickanc of burton baptized the same day of the month [1 May 1670].

Elizabeth the wiufe of Roger Wilsonn was buryed the 7th day of September 1670.

William son to Jonathan Wilson of Burton baptized the 4 day of February 1670.

Roger Wilson and Elizabeth Cartwright both of burton were marryed the 17 January 1671.

Kathern daughter to William Pickance of Burton bap. 17 Nov. 1672.

Ellin wife to John Meolse of Burton bur 1 Sep. 1673.

Mary da to Thomas Meooles of Burton bap. 7 Dec. 1673.

Thomas son to Jonathan Willson of burton bap. 21th day of december 1673.

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[1] Her will is not at Chester or P.C.C.

[2] Ormerod gives the year as 1665.

William Pickance of Burton was buryed the 12th day of January 1673.[1]

Mary daughter to Thomas Meooles of burton buryed the 19th March 1673.

Edward Massy of Puddington armiger buryed the eleventh day of January [1674].[2]

Roger Willson of Burton was buryed the 8th day of January 1675.[3]

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[1] The nuncupative will of [William] Pickance of Bur . . . ty of Chester being [sic]ke of the sicknesse [where]of hee dyed did upon the 9 January 1673 declare his will [&c.]. The standeing goodes in the howse should remain for his eldest son John . . . The remainder of his personal estate amongst the five younger children . . .

[The rest of this will is a solid mass with damp.]

Inve . . . of . . . of William . . . 1673 £198. 17. 4 mentions "his tools for his trade as ship carpenter £1. 10/" and "the Quarter pt. of the ship called the "Diamond" £80. 0. 0. Endorsed Pro. 1673 by Dorothy Pickance the relict at Chester.

[2] In the name of God Amen 7 September 1671 I Edward Massey of Puddington co. Chester Esqr [&c.]. Unto Mr Thomas Hughson of Leland co. Lanc. gentleman forty pound. To my brother Richard Massey five pound. To my nephew William Lathom thirty pound. To Mr John Plessington five pound. To my eldest son William all my plow geare and cart geare with all the heire looms antiently belonging to my manner house. To Mrs Alice Mort five pound. To my wife and four children all my goods equally. I make Sr William Standley of Hooton Barronit, Sr Gefferey Shakerley of the Citty of Chester, Knight, and Mrs Dorothy Westby of Lealand in the county of Lancaster, supervisors. Witnesses—Julian Skelton, Michael Fitzwilliam, John Gregson, William Palliser, John Blackburne.

Oval seal with a shield without ornament showing arms of Massey of Puddington.

Admon. granted at Chester to Sir Gefferey Shakerley Knt. other bondsmen—William Palliser of Puddington gent and [blank] Dalton 27 Jan. 1674.

Inventory: Plate, £53. 12. 3. Furniture about £123. Hay, oats, pease, £119. Sheep, kine, 8 oxen, horses, and swine, £162. Total, £457. 10. 1. The rooms mentioned are as follows: "The decds bedchamber, the little chamber, nurcery, the passage room, the parlour chamber, the bell chamber, old Mr Richards chamber, Thos Barrows chamber, Robert Peerses chamber, old Mr Pallisers chamber, George Antonies chamber, Franks chamber, the yallow chamber, the dyneing roome (which contained only 'a cupboard a frame for a table and an old bedstidd!') the greene chamber, my Lady Sen John's chamber, the Drs chamber, the mayds chamber, the parlour, Richard Jones' chamber the closett above the Hall."

[3] In the name of God, amen, 3 Jan. 1675, I, Rodgr Wilson of Burton co. Chester being distempered in body. To be buried in the Parish Church of Burton neere where Elizabeth my late wife was interred. Divides all personal estate betwixt Elizabeth my p'sentt wife and the children of Thomas Woods of Burton begotten on the

Elizabeth Willson of Burton widdow buried the first day of February 1676.[1]

Henry son to Richard Jackson baptized the twenty sixth day of August 1677.

Jonathan Willson } Wardens Anno Dñi 1678.
Tho. Smith }

Sammuell Pickance and Hannah [. . . ?] were marryed [blank] day Aprill 1677.

Gerratt Macklin and Sara Willson by virtue of a licence dated the ninth day of October were lawfully marryed the twenty first day of the same month [1678].

Robeart Ball } Wardens 1679.
Sammuell Pickance }

Thomas son to Jonathan Willson of burtton was buryed with out any linin the first day of may [1679].

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body of Jane my onely daughter by Elizabeth my former wife. To James Southerne and Katherine his wife & there foure children each 10/ as a testimony of my relative affection. Unto John Wilson of Lidgete [Query Lydiate; Lydgate is in co. York] in ye county of Lancaster, Ellen the wife of Edmund Lunt 10/ each, to the children of Rodger Wilson of Hyton co. Lanc. deceased 10/, to Katherin Williamson of Leverpool widow and relict of Richard Williamson deceased 10/, children of Hugh Worrall of Thornton Hough co. Chester 10/, servants John Owen & Ann Haughton. From £10 owing by Jane Halliwell of Pulford and Thos Prichett 20/ ea. to Mary wife of Richard . . .? and Katherine wife of Thomas Prichett. To twenty of the poor of Burton 20/ to be divided. Ex^rs wife Elizabeth and son in law Thomas Woods. Witnesses John Owen, Jo. Litherland. Inventory, 39 sheep, one ox, husbandry gear, mault shovel, &c. £167. 11. 2. ND. Proved 4 Nov. 1676. Chester.

[1] In the name of God, Amen, November 21st 1676 I, Elizabeth Wilson of Burton in the County of Chester, widow beeinge weake of body . . . do thus frame and make my last will . . . Elizabeth Robinson my god daughter shall have the Chest that stands in the Lower Chamber. My god-son Henry Melts shall eyther have one of my Oxen or the Featherbed in the Lower Chamber. John Johnson and Sarah Johnson lawful issue of Edward Johnson of great Neston deceased shall have eyther of them ten shillinges. John Gill son of Francis Gill of Brumbrough Mills ten shillings. My servant maid Anne Hampton three pounds. My man servant John Owen ten shillings. God daughter Ellin Woods tenne shillinges. One half of the remainder of my goods and estate I give to my brother Henry Melts and the remainder to the children of Henry Werrall my brother in law and the children of Thomas Robinson of Oxon [minors] . . . both the children of Henry Werrall . . . Margret Werrall their naturall mother. Brother Henry Melts, executor. Witnesses, Patricke Larkin, Joseph Wilson, Tho. Leadbeater, Senr [?]. Proved at Chester 10 Feb. 1676. Inventory, 3 Feb. 1676, £67. 11. 4 of which, cattle £20, carts &c. £3, sheep, swine, "geas," and hens £3, wearing apparel £7, remainder mostly furniture, no chairs. Prised by Nathaniell Wilson, Richard Jackson.

Elizabeth daughter to Sammuell Pickance of Pottington baptized the 26th day of November 1679.

1680.

Tho. Hanckocke & Ales Pickanc marryed the 29th of May.

Ann daughter to Sammuell Willson of Puddington baptized the 25th day of December 1680.

John Litherland minister at burton was buryed the eleventh day of march 1680.

Anno Dmi 1681.

Nathaniell Willson } Wardens.
Tho. Gonion }

Easter daughter of Sammuell Pickance of Puddington baptized 3 day of Aprill 1681.

Sammuell Pickanc of puddington was buryed the 18th day of may 1681.[1]

Joseph son to Sammuell Willson of Puddington baptized the 10th day of September 1682.

Let it certyfie whom it may concern that James Edge of the parish of Altkar and Ales Dale of the parish of Burton were marryed the 5th of June 1684 p. me Jos Lech minister of Altkar.

Mary daughter to James Edge of Elthorns baptized the 29th of March 1685.

John Pickance and Kathern Newell were marryed the second day of Aprill 1685.

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[1] In the name of God, Amen, I Samuell Pickance of Pottington co. Chester shipright, sicke and weake . . . to be buried in the parish church or church yard of Burton . . . To my now wife hanna Pickance* . . . my whole estate . . . my daughters Elisabeth and Esfter [minors]. Dated 19 May 1681. Witnesses: Will Howard, Ralph Lightfoot. Inv. 26 May 1681 by Thomas Woods of Burton yeoⁿ and William Palliser of Puddington yeoⁿ £38. 7. 3. Pro. 15 June 1681 at Chester.

About this time was also proved the nuncupative will of Hannah Pickance as follows :—

Memorandum that upon or about ye 22th day of May Anno Dni 1684 Hannah pickance late of puddington . . . widow being then sick of the sicknes whereof ye same day she died . . . in her own dwelling house in Puddington aforesaid did nuncupatively [&c.] . . . First she bequeathed her Flinger, meaning her loose Gown . . . unto her maid servant Ellnn Charnock . . . unto Mary Woods her waist coate . . . to her sister Mary Bennett her Hatt. Witnesses: Allis × Palliser, Margery × Mealer, Ellin[ore?] × Charnocke, Mary Woods, Ann Mealer. Proved by Thomas (called John in endorsement) Pickance 28 June 1684 ad usum ejus neptum Eliza and Hestere Pickance. Inventory £18. 16. 8. by Thomas Woods and Will. Palliser [includes cow, calf, pig, geese, &c.].

* ? Hannah Wilson, married at Burton, 1677.

Mary daughter to James Edge buryed the 22 day of Aprill [1685].

Ellin daughter to John Willson of Willaston baptised the 13th day of September 1685.

1686.

John Littleer and Dorothy Pickanc were married the 10th day of July 1686.

William son to John Pickanc of Burton baptized the 25th day of december 1686.

Susanna wiufe to Sammuell Willson of Puddington buryed the 8th day of march 1686.

1688.

Mary daughter to Jonathan Willson of burton was buryed the 9th day of August 1688.

Katherne Laetham gentwoman dyed at Puddington and was buryed 28th day of December 1688.

1689.

Danniell Littler and Mary Willson were marryed the last day of march 1689.

James son to John Willson of Williston baptised the 24th day of May 1689.

William son to John Pickanc of Burton buryed the 13th day of march 1689.

George son to William Massy of burton baptized the 15th day of december 1690.

Jahen daughter to James Edge of Elthorne baptized the 22d day of march 1690.

Raffe Lightfoot }
Samuell Willson } A.D. 1691.
Wardens.

James son to Nathaniell Willson of burton buryed the 24th of July 1691.

Thomas son to Richard Weever minister buryed the 30th day of march 1695.

Elizabeth daughter to William Massye of burton baptized the 15th day of September 1695.

Ms. Aggnes Massey buryed the fourth day of February 1696.

Elizabeth wiufe to John Willson of Willaston was buryed the 7th day June [1692].

Elizabeth daughter of William Massy of burton baptized the 12th day of march 1692.

1693.

Elizabeth daughter to William Massy of burton buryed the 29th day of march.

Gulielmus filius Gulielmi Moores de Puddingtō et Maria filia Johannis Harrisō Cleric nupti fuere vicesimo septo die sept^bris^ anni p dicti (1665).

1694.

John son to John Pickanc of Burton baptized 3 Aprill 1694.

Thomas Smith and Sisley Willson both of the parish of Burton were married the second day of Juli 1694.[1]

Margreat wiufe to Richard Jackson of Burton buryed the 7th day of October 1694.

Richard Jackson[2] of Burton was buryed the 12th . . . 1697.

. . . ward the son of William Massey of Burton baptized Feb. 19 [1698–9].

Anne Massey Ante to Mr William Massey of Puddington Esqr buryed May 12 1699.

Edward son to William Massy buryed Feby thirty one [1699].

Richard Massey Unkell to Mr William Massey Esquire buryed March 9 day 1699.

Anno Domī 1700.

John Pickance } Wardens.
Robeard Shuger }

Mrs Ann Massey buryed May 12 [1699].

Mr Richard Massey buryed March the 9 [1699].

Samuell son to Thomas Bainbridge Clerke baptized May 22 [1700].

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[1] In the name of God, Amen, I George Smith of Tranmore co. Chester, yeoman, weake. To wife Alice messuages &c. in Saugham Massee and Great Nesson, remainder of former "to the use of my four grandchildren by my daughter Mary *i.e.* to Thomas John Catherine and Anne Wilson" to be sett by Stanley Orrett and Obadiah Wilson* my sons in law . . . but if it happen that Mary Low my daughter shall survive her now husband George Low she shall have the messuage in Saugham wholly. Remainder of messḡe &c. in Great Nesson to issue of Hannah Finchett my daughter [her husband living]. Messuage called the Rock House and the ferry with the boates &c. to said Stanley Orrett and his wife Elizabeth and their issue. To said daughters Hannah and Elizabeth and to my daughter Blanch Wilson [their husbands living] £40 each to be paid to John Warminsham of Spittle and Henry Robinson of Liscard whom I appoint trustees.

To my old servant William Tellett £20. To Elizabeth Davies of Liverpool £5. To Cosin Thomas Smith 40^s^. Servant Sarah Worrall 10^s^. Wife Alice Smith residuary legatee and Ex^x^. Dated 4 Nov. 1703. Witnesses: John Beavin, John Grice, Hen Robinson. Proved by Alice the relict 5 July 1704, Chester.

[2] See his M.I. in the church.

* ? Son of Robert Wilson of Bidston cum Ford, yeoman. See Bidston printed Register, p. 97 *n*.

Sammuell son to Thomas Bainbridge Clerke buryed June 4 [1700].

Anno Dom 1701.

Elizabeth Daug to John Pickanc bapt March 25.

John Pickance buryed Aug. 26. 1701.[1]

. . . athaniell Wilson buried May 30. 1702.[2]

Sisle daughter to Benjamin Willson of pudingtō baptized the 3 day of November [1702].

Robert Woods & Katherine Pickance married December 24 [1702].

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[1] August the 13th 1701. In the name of God amen, I John Pickance [of Burton (in Calendar)] being in perfect mind . . . to my three daughters all the money I have in the country upon bill or bond . . . I appoint John littler and Nimiay hanĉke to have all power . . . to see . . . the money . . . is not to go any other way . . . and that the three daughters shall be keept with sofisent meat drinke and loging till they be one and twenty or else to pay foure pound apiece a yeare if brother or mother be carles and if the Town settle the som [?] shall pay twenty pound apiece to the 3 daughters if ye Executors think fitt . . . bloveed wife Executore with them. Witnesses: Katrien Moor, Peter × Hamond, Peter Hamond. Sworn by John Litler and Nehemiah Hancock 6 June 1702 and by Catharine the widow 11 June following, Chester.

[2] In the Name of God Amen, I Nathaniel Wilson of Burton in Weral in perfect health . . . yet that I may not in the last minutes of my life be disturbed with the cares of this world . . . To my son Samll Wilson the land in Willison called the three Nookes he paying his two children Joseph & Ann each five pounds. . . . To my son Benjamin Wilson the house & croft in Westkirkby by me lately purchased as also ye two fields called ye broad Hey and Croft Millen in the same township he paying to my son Joseph ten pounds . . . and also to the sons of my son Gerrard Macklin viz. Thomas and Gerrard Macklin eā £5 . . . and also to my own children, viz. Mary, Nathaniel, Ann, & Thomas Wilson to each of them £5 . . . I give to each of my grandchildren wch shall be alive . . . £5. My personal estate I leave entirely to my wife . . . My wife Alice Wilson and my sons Samll Wilson and Gerrard Macklin [Executors] to whose discretion if I don't otherwise order it before my death I leave the disposal of some part of my goods to the poor for they very well know how God has blessed me in whatever I have put my hand to, to whom be glory for ever Amen this eighteenth day of June Ano Dom 1701. Witnesses: Tho. Sodor & Man, Robt Maddrell, Mary × Wilson of Saughold [seal broken shows a mitre]. Pro. by Samuel Wilson and Gerard Macklin power res. to Alice Wilson 13 June 1702. Inventory 29 May 1702 £162. 8. 10. includes 8 cows, 1 bullock, 3 young beasts, 2 calves, 11 sheep, 1 swine, books £00. 10. 0., due from Mr. Thom. Bennett £20, from John Meoles £1. 10/–, from Hy. Derry £1. 3/–. Total creditors nearly £100 including his own family.

1703.

Katherine wiufe to Jonathan Wilson buryed may 5 day 1703.

Nathaniell son to Beniamin Willson buryed [? January] . . . 1703.

Martha wiufe to John Jackson of Burton buryed Aprill 26 1705.

Henry Jackson[1] buryed the 7th day of November 1705.

Ester Pekance who deied in Neston Parish Buryed Octo ye 25 [1706].

Ales Willson dyed at Lettleneston and was buryed August the 19 day 1708.

Jonathan son to John Wilson baptised May 4 1710.

John Meols buryed Sept. 26 1710.

Elizabeth the daughter of John Wilson Baptised August 5. 1712.

Margret the daughter of George Massey Baptised August 14. 1712.

Jonathan Wilson Senr Buryed Decemb 23. 1712.[2]

Jeremiah Wilson of Bidston & Elizabeth Smith were married [? May] 5, 1714.[3]

William the son of John Wilson Baptised August 10. 1714.

William the son of John [? Wilson] Buryed February 6. 1715.

William Massey of pudington buryed . . .[4] 1715.[5]

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[1] See his M.I. in the church.

[2] His will is not at Chester or P.C.C.

[3] Probably son of Daniel Wilson, bap. at Bidston, 5 Sept. 1692.

[4] 15 Feb. (Ormerod).

[5] In the name of God, Amen, I William Massey of Puddington in the County of Chester, Esquire, being sick and weak in body but of sound mind and memory do make &c. Body to the earth at discretion of Executors, Manors, Messuages, lands &c in Puddington or elsewhere to the most noble Charles Duke of Shrewsbury the Rt. Honble . . . Lord Gower, Sr Rowland Stanley of Hooton co. Chester Bart. & the Hon. Richd. Molyneux, Esq., eldest son of the Rt. Hon. the Lord Molyneux, my trustees and executors . . . in trust. I doe devise and give and bequeath all and every my said Manors, Messuages, Lands, tenements and hereditaments unto my godson Thomas Stanley sonn of Wm Stanley of Hooton Esq. and his assigns during his naturall life hee taking upon him the name of Massey. Alsoe I give and devise all and every my said manor [?] and premises unto my said trustees and their heirs during the naturall life of the said Thomas Stanley in trust to preserve contingent remainders and from and after the decease of the said Thomas Stanley I give and devise the Manors [etc.] unto the first, second, third, and fourth and all and every other the sonne and sonnes of the body of the said Thomas Stanley lawfully begotten, and the heirs male of the body and bodyes of such sonnes [etc.]. Remainder in default to John Stanley another son of said William Stanley during his naturall life,

John Wilson of Burton Buried May 3, 1717.[1]

Samuel Wilson Buryed Sept. . . . ? 1719.

Mary Wilson the daughter of Joseph Wilson Buryed Oct. 16. 1719.

Thomas the sun of John Edge Bapt. Nov. [13?] 1719.

William Wilson of the parish of Burton and Abigail Lowe of the parish of St Michael in Chester were maryed the first day of August 1721.

William Massey Buryed dec. 11 [1721].

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he taking the name of Massey [remainder to his heirs male in same way as above].

In default remainder to Edward Herbert Esq second son of the Duke of Powys of Powys Castle, he taking upon him the name of Massey and his heirs male. In default to the use of my right heires for ever. Trustees not within fifty years to sell or lease any of my messuages lands [etc.] in Warford and Somerford. Trustees to be executors. [Dated] 6 February 1715. Witnesses: Tho: Ridley, Tho: Robinson, R. Cottingham.

[Inter Massey als Stanley quer: et Dnam Sarā Curzon et alt. deft. In Canc. xvij die Sept. 1722.]

I Wm Massey, Esq. doe by this Codicil [etc.].

To Katherine Massey my sister £500.

To Mr Thomas Harnedge £500.

To Mrs Katherine Browne an annuity of £20 during her naturall life.

To Mrs Katherine King annuity of £10.

To Mrs Alice Latham annuity of £20.

To Mrs Elizabeth Morgell £10 annuity.

To Mrs Elizabeth Hockenhull £10 annuity.

To Mrs Katherine Glaseour daughter of Thomas Glaseour, Esq., £10 annuity.

To my servant William Waring £5 annuity. To servant Thomas Wynne £5 annuity. [Other legacies to servants.] Dated 7 February 1715.

[Signed in a very feeble hand] Wm Massey. Witnesses: Thos. Ridley, Jane Ridley, R. Cottingham [writer of document].

[Second codicil.] To Mrs Katherine Stanley wife of Wm Stanley, Esqre, Mrs Mary Harrington wife of Charles Harrington, Esq., Mrs Anne Stanley and Mrs Katherine Stanley daughter of Sr Rowland Stanley £5 a peece to buy their mourning—day and year above said. [Same witnesses as last.] Item I do further give to Mrs Parrys daughter who now lives at Longford £10. [Date aforesaid, same witnesses.]

Proved 20 June 1721 at Chester by Sr Rowland Stanley Bt. one of the executors, power reserved etc.

[1] In the name of God Amen 26 Aprill 1717 I John Willson of Burton co Chester husbandman . . . sick . . . Unto my daughter Elizabeth £150 when she arrive at the age of twenty one or £180 as discretion of my executors. All real & personal estate in Burton to my son Jonathan subject to my wife's joynter. Wife and brothers

1722 John the son of John Edge bap. Sept. 16 day.
„ John the son of Samuel Meoles bap. Sept. 17 day.
1724 William son to Mr Fluet beryed September 17 ? 1724.
„ Sarah Daughter to Samuel Meols of Burton bapt November ye 5 day 1724.
1725 Anne Daughter to John Edge of burton baptised . . . [faded out but previous to Sept. 12].
„ Thomas Bainbridge Ministr of Burton 30 yeares aged nere a Hundred year ould Buryed ye 2 day of Dec. 1725.[1]
„ Suhannah [*sic*] wife of Sm Willson Buryed ye 8 day of January.

William Willson & Stanley Orred Exrs and trustees to children. Witnesses: Stephen Leader, Thomas Ashbrook, Richard Jackson.

Proved by Esther Wilson the widow & other Exrs 14 June 1718. Inventory, £318. 05. 0. by Same Willson & Thomas Ashbrook includes Cattle, Cheese (£31. 4/), Moneys & bond £153. 10/.

[Testator's sister Sisley mar. Thos. Smith at Burton 2 July 1694 and Stanley Orred mar. Elizabeth Smith at Bebington 13 June 1699. See Pedigree.]

In this year the will of another John Wilson was also proved at Chester:—

In the name of God amen I John Willson of Willaston in the County of Chester yeoman weake and visited with sickness by the hand of all mighty God . . . doe here in the p'sence of Thomas Bettson, Robert Vernon, Thomas Poole, make &c. 1 June 1716.

To be buried in Neston Church.

I give my house and land that I was born heare to to [*sic*] my son William Wilson.

To my daughter Margreat £60 &c.
To my soon Thomas Willson £60 &c.
To my soon John Willson £55 &c.
To my soon Danniall Willson £70.
To my daughter Elizabeth Willson £70.
[Some of these children minors.]
Wife to have £6 p.a.
To my son James Willson my hows in Chester.

Wife Elizebeth trustee for younger children and soone William Willson, Samuel Willson and William Green their guardians.

My younger children Margret, Thomas, John, Danial, Elizabeth, and makes all four executors.

Proved Chester 13 July 1717 by Elizabeth & William Wilson.

[1] In the name of God Amen, I Thomas Bainbridge, Clerk, Minister of the parish church of Burton in the county of Chester &c. I give to my dear wife Jane Bainbridge all those my messuages and tenements . . . in the parish of Christleton in the said county which I have lately purchased of one Samuell Parry. And as for my dwelling house where I now dwell with the lands thereunto belonging, I give one half to my said loving wife and the other half to my son John and his issue [with remainder in default of such issue to said wife]. Unto my grandson Thomas Bainbridge the interest of £20 until

1727 Oct. 24 Elizabeth Daughter of Daniel Wilson Baptised.
„ Dec. 6 William son of Samuel Meols Baptised.
„ „ 17 William son of Samuel Meols Buried.
„ Mar. 10 James the son of John Edge Baptized.
1729 Aug. 6 Elizabeth ye Daughter of Mr Fluit of Chester Buried.
„ Sept. 4 Mr. John Bainbridge of Burton Buried.[1]
„ Oct. 24 Sarah Byrd Wison [*sic*] of Burton Buried.
„ Mar. 10 John ye son of Daniel Wilson of Burton Baptized.
1730 Aug. 1 John ye son of Daniel Wilson Buried.
„ Feb. 7 Mary ye Daughter of John Edge Baptiz'd.
1731 April 15 Ellenor ye Wife of John Edge of Burton Buried.
„ Apl. 21 Mary ye Daughter of John Edge Buried.
„ May 9 John Kelley of the hills Heys Buried.
„ July 4 Phœbe ye Daughter of Daniel Wilson Baptiz'd.
„ Oct. 23 Willm ye son of Mr Fluit Buried.
„ „ 12 (*sic*) Tho ye son of Saml Meoles Baptizd.
1732 May 31 Elizabeth Pickance of Burton Buried.
„ Sep. 29 Frances ye Daughter of Fr. Ashenhurst, Clerk, Rector of Burton, Baptiz'd.
„ Dec. 7 Frances ye Daughter of F. Ashenhurst, Clerk, Buried.
1733 June 29 John ye son of John Pickance of Burton baptizd.

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he attains 24 years and then the principal sum. To son-in-law Francis Baker and to my daughters Sarah Tomkinson and Mary Williams five shillings each. To all my grandchildren between six and eight years old a new bible. To my daughter Martha Brown messuage &c. in Etchells in the parish of Northenden co. Chester for life with remainder to her son John and his heirs, and in default of such issue to her son James and his heirs. To the poor of the parish of Burton fifty shillings. To son John £50 and half my estate in Denhall Hospitall and the land thereto belonging and the tyths therewith leased. My son John shall pay one half of the taxes and rent reserved in the lease of the s^d^ Hospitall lands and tyths and also one Moyety of the charge of providing a Curate or preaching Minister at Burton Church according to the intent of the lease. . . . Wife Executor. Dated 4 June 1725. Witnesses, William Burrowes, John Symons [?] Edward Collin.

Proved by the relict 18 July 1726 at Chester.

[1] Admōn of goods of John Bainbridge late of the parish of Burton co Chester husbandman was granted at Chester to Sarah Tomlinson widow, of Warrington co Lanc., his sister, other bondsmen being William Tomlinson of Warrington afsd. Hardwareman, and John Kiplin of same Yeōn. 14 Nov. 1729.

1733 Jan. 5 Joseph Wilson of Burton Buried.[1]
1734 Apr. 30 Mr Davenport Schoolmaster of Burton Buried.
" Sept. 13 Hannah ye Daughter of Saml Meols Bapt.
" Nov. 14 William ye son of John Pickance Bap.
1735 Mar. 25 Joseph Johnson of Neston and Eliz. Wilson Married.
1737 May 13 Joseph ye son of Saml Meols Bap.
1738 Oct. 10 Hugh Hughes and Margaret Massey Married.
" Nov. 1 John ye son of Jonathan Wilson Baptizd.
1740 Geo Hockenhull & Sarah Spencer mar May 5.
" Rd Yates, clerk, Curate of Burton & Mrs Jane Cowap of Puddington mar May 22.
" Jan. 19 Esther the Daughtr of Jonathan Wilson bap.
" Mar. 23 John ye son of Samuel Meoles buried.
1742 Apl. 12 Ann the wife of George Massey Buried.
" [ND] Curate of Burton Buried. Fun [*sic*].
1743 Mar. 8 Esther Wilson widow died at Neston.
1744[2] Jan. 22 Ellin the wife of Mr Joseph Fluitt of Chester Buried.

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[1] See his M.I., p. 44. In the name of God Amen I Joseph Wilson of Burton co. Chester yeoman . . . sick . . . To my dear and loveing wife Elizabeth Wilson & to my nephew John Street of Moor in the co. of Flint the reversion & inheritance of all that my messuage . . . in little Neston . . . (that I have power to dispose of . . . after the decease of the survivor of my two daughters) in trust . . . for the payment of my debts & masses them Exrs Dated 7 July 1733.

Seal.

Crest: A goat's head couped holding . . .? in the mouth.

Witnesses—Richd Davenport, Jonathan Wilson, William Madocke, Kinnerton.

Pro by Eliz. Wilson widow surviving Exx 7 May 1739, Chester.

[2] In this year the following will was proved in the Bishop's Court at Chester:—

Whereas I Benjamin Wilson of Westkirbie in the County of Chester, yeoman, do make this my last will . . . Unto my daughtor Mary Hughes the dwelling house and the rest of the out buildings with the yard and gardens, the Crofts Mellon, the Lang and the Bank . . . all . . . in the parish of Westkirbie aforesaid, [remainder to] my grandson Benjamin Hughes [her son] he causing to be paid to his four sisters Mary, Ann, Elizabeth and Catharine £20 equally divided . . . and also shall pay to the Churchwardens of the parish of Burton in the Hundred of Worrall ten shillings yearly on Easter day for the use of the poor. Unto my daughter Ann Potter the Closes called the two broad hays . . . in Westkirbie. Andrew Potter my son in law and Thomas Maiklin of Storeton Executors. Dated 4 Nov. 1732. Witnesses John Glegg, Attorney, John Lee of Backford, Thomas Oliverson, Mr Gleggs servt. 18 July 1744 Andrew Potter renounces.

No date of Probate.

1744 Mar. 5 Ann the Daughter of Jonathan Wilson bap.
1745 Oct. 31 Sarah Meoles of Burton Buried.
1746 Dec. 8 Hannah the wife of Mr Jonathan Smith Schoolmaster at Burton Buried.
1748 Aug. 11 [or ? 14] Mr Jonathan Smith Schoolmaster of Burton buried.
„ Sep. 23 Jonathan Wilson of Burton buried.
1750 Apl. 16 The Revd Mr Fran^s Ashenhurst Rect^r of Burton died ab^t two 'Clock in ye Morning and Buried at Leigh Church in Staffordshire the twenty first in the 62 year of his Age.[1]
„ May 30 George the son of Wm Massey of Burton Buried.
„ Aug. 27 William the son of Wm Jön School Master of Burton Baptiz.
„ Oct. 23 Matthew the Son of Robt Washington Cur^t of Burton Baptiz'd.

SUNDRY ENTRIES.

1751 John Pickance of Burton bur aged 57 Nov. 11.[2]
1754 Apl. 22 Thomas Brownsord of Liverpool [blank space] wright Bu^d he was drowned coming from Flint.
1755 Oc^r 30 John Edge of Neston Buried.
1757 Aug. 2 The Revd Robert Washington Curate of this Parish bur. [Washington is a parish name.]
1758 June 11 James son of Robt Oliver (Miller) of Burton bap.
1761 Feb. 6 Jane the Dau. of Edward Kennerley of Liverpool bur.
1762 Oct. 3 Wm son of Jon^n Brownsworth and Alice his wife of Burton bap.
1764 Sept. 27 Ann Edge bur.
1765 Nov. 14 James son of Rev Mr Tamberlain bap.
1766 Apl. 6 William son of Robert Oliver, Miller, & Mary his wife bap.
„ July 22 Ann Brownsworth bur.
1767 Feb. 16 John Morton of Wm [? M^r ?] Tamberlain Clerk and Dorothy his wife bap.
„ May 15 Elizabeth dau of John & Ann Pickance of Burton bap.
„ May 19 Ann dau of John & Ann Wilson bap.
„ Dec. 13 Joseph Owen, son of Thomas Watts Curate of Burton by Jane his wife, was Baptized Dec. 13.

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[1] His will proved at Chester 1750 is missing.
[2] See his monumental inscription in the churchyard.

1768 Mar. 14 Elizabeth d of John Pickance bur.
1769 Apl. 9 John son of John Pickance bap.
" June 4 Alice d of John Willson bap.
" July 13 Peirce, s. of Thomas Watts Curate of Burton by Jane his wife, bap.
[to 1770]

THE "RUDE FOREFATHERS."

The following are the lists of the inhabitants referred to in the body of the notes.

WIRRAL SUBSIDY ROLL, 1545.[1]

PODYNGTON.[2]

†Thoma Jannyn pro iii*li*	iii*d.*
†Johe Smythe pro iii*li*	iii*d.*
†Hugone Smythe pro iii*li*	iii*d.*
†Henrico Annyan pro iii*li*	iii*d.*
Henrico Jenson pro vi*li*	xii*d.*
†Robto Mores pro v*li*	x*d.*
Johe Bennet pro iiii*li*	iiii*d.*
Roberto Bennet pro iiii*li*	iiii*d.*
Johe Sefton pro iii*li*	iii*d.*
Johe Calley pro iii*li*	iii*d.*
†Edwardo Lightfoot pro xl*s.*	ii*d.*
Rado Spencer pro xx*s.*	i*d.*
Willmo Male [?] pro xx*s.*	i*d.*
†Robte Smythe pro xx*s.*	i*d.*

BURTON.

Thoma Robynson pro vi*li*	xij*d.*
Rico Robynson pro iij*li*	iij*d.*
Thoma Warrhenton pro iiij*li*	iiij*d.*
†Robto Massey pro xx*s.*	i*d.*
Rico Leyne pro iij*li*	iij*d.*
†Thoma Morres pro xv*s.*	i*d.*
†Johe Gardener pro iij*li.*	iij*d.*
†Henrico Gardener pro vj*li*	xij*d.*
†Rico Gardener pro iij*li*	iij*d.*
†Robto Meols pro v*li*	xij*d.*

[1] *Wirral Notes and Queries*, ii. 36–38.
[2] Surnames marked thus † occur in the Hearth Tax Roll about one hundred years later.

†Johe Ball pro xl*s*.	ij*d*.
Johe Heward pro xx*s*.	j*d*.
Jen ap Ithell pro xx*s*.	j*d*.
†Davyo Massey pro vi*li*.	xij*d*.
†Johe Meoles pro xl*s*.	ij*d*.
Johe Robynson pro vj*li*	xij*d*.
Thoma Jennson pro iv*li*	iiij*d*.
Gilberto Gellyat pro xx*s*.	i*d*.
Thoma Radley pro xl*s*.	ij*d*.
Rogers Mawrie pro xx*s*.	i*d*.
Patrico Nelston pro iij*li*	iij*d*.
Johe Sefton [?] pro xx*s*.	i*d*.
Robto Gyll pro iij*li*	iij*d*.
Thoma Harper pro xl*s*.	ii*d*.
Henrico Browne pro xl*s*.	ii*d*.

Seven or eight other names are illegible.

THE NAMES OF ALL AND SINGULAR KNIGHTS, ESQUIRES, GENTLEMEN AND FREEHOLDERS IN COM: CESTRIÆ.[1]

[Harleian MSS. 1424 and 1505.]
An° 1579, 22° Eliz.
George Mascy of Potington [Puddington] Esq.

SUBSIDY ROLL OF 1625.[2]

This roll contains the names of the most important and wealthy persons in Wirral, and we find the parish of Burton represented as follows:—

PUDDINGTON.

Johes. Robinson in bon iii*li* [3. 13. 4 exd.] viii*s*.

BURTON.

Thomas Browne in bon v*li* xiii*s*. iiii*d*.

HEARTH TAXES.

From the Hearth taxes levied in the year 1663 [Lay Subsidies $\frac{264}{35}$] we get a complete and interesting early Directory of Burton and Puddington, showing, by the number of the hearths charged upon, the social position of the inhabitants, the usual rough-and-ready reckoning being three or more for a person *in the position of* a gentleman, two for a yeoman, and one for ordinary inhabitants.

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[1] *Wirral Notes and Queries*, i. 80.
[2] *Ibid.*, i. 52.

The roll for the southern portion of Wirral is entitled "Acount of all the hearthes in the higer diuision of the hundred of Worall, Aprill the 20th 1663," and gives the following lists of inhabitants:—

Burton—

Thomas Sharpe, 1
Netennel Willson, 1
Robert Cartright, 1
Robert Flecher, 1
†Ralphe Lightfoote, 2
*Will Robin, 1
†Thomas Smith, 1
†Widdoe Janion, 1
*Houmfrey Hinshaw, 1
John Broughell, 1
Thomas Tealeor, 1
Peater Amon (in Lay Subsidy $\frac{86}{145}$, with which I have compared the present roll, and which appears to be written by a better scribe, this name is given as Hammon).
Robert Maddocke, 1
*Joh Teuleor, 1
[John Taylor in $\frac{86}{145}$]
†Water Anion, 1
†William Mores, 1
†Widdoe Balle, 1
Willi Kneuell, 1
†John Smith, 1
†Widdoe Mores, 1
[Widdow Morres in $\frac{86}{145}$]
†Margrat Gardner, 1
*Willi Tealeor, 1
Jonathan Willson, 1
†John Mealles, 2
John Greakery, 1
[Gregory in $\frac{86}{145}$]
William Mader, 1
†Widdoe Balle, 1
Thomas Owen, 1
Willi Coper, 1
Robt. Cotton, 1
Roger Willson, 1
Will Minshall, 1
Robert Wods, 1
Daniel Woods, 1
Widdoe Leather, 1
John Goodicaker
James Euens, 1

Mr Letherland, 7
Jone Hind, 2
Thomas Haniton, 1
Phillipe Larken, 1

Pudington—

†Mr [Edward in $\frac{86}{145}$] Masse Esqre, 12
Widdow Willson, 2
†John Smith, 2
†Will Mores, 1
Widdoe Lea, 1
Willm Barrow, 1
†Tho Janion, 1
William Jones, 1
Mr Harrson, 1
[Harrinson in $\frac{86}{145}$]
Frances Suger, 1
[Suggar in $\frac{86}{145}$]
Rob. James, 1
*William Mealer, 1
*John Mealer, 1

It is interesting to note that those surnames marked † appear in the Subsidy Roll of 1545, and that the surname Wilson does not do so. The surname Robinson, which occurs thrice in 1545 and once in 1625, has disappeared in 1663.

Those names marked * are represented in the parish to-day.

ADDENDA

THE CHURCHWARDEN'S ACCOUNTS

The Churchwarden's Accounts extant, unfortunately, commence only in 1780, so that we learn nothing regarding the Church. They are of the usual character, and contain the customary number of entries for "drink," which appears to have been a necessary concomitant to any repairs or new instalment about the Church. Sometimes, however, this item is more euphemistically expressed by the entry "spent then," but no large amount of imagination is necessary to comprehend the nature of the investment—

1780	To Ringing for Good news	3	8

The "good news" was probably the capture of Charlestown and the successes of Cornwallis in America.

	To the fifth of November and oil and candles	8	0
1782	To Ringers for Admiral Rodney's Victory . .	3	—

This was the famous victory off Martinique, in which the practice of cutting the enemy's line of battle was first put into effect, on a system. The great ship of the French Admiral, Count de Grasse (the *Ville de Paris*), was captured by Captain Cornwallis (afterwards Admiral Cornwallis of Newland's Manor) of the *Canada*. The rejoicings were no doubt universal throughout England; so far away as Lymington in Hants we find a similar entry.

1783	To Richard Williams for a bitch fox . . .	2	6
„	To Ale for the Parson and Clarke at Easter .	2	0

In the eighteenth century strong ale was the favourite beverage, and to drink a good deal of it was considered the mark of a good-natured and friendly disposition. We get an excellent sketch of the manners of the times in a recently published local history.[1] "The parson, the parish clerk, and the exciseman were the three educated worthies, whose opinion as 'scholars' was listened to with deference. The Reverend thought it noways improper to take his pipe and pot every evening at the Nag's Head, or one of the other taverns. There

[1] "Old Times Revisited," by Charles T. King.

he smoked, in the company of his churchwardens and parishioners, and discussed parish matters, or delivered his opinion on politics in general—good sound orthodox doctrine, we may be sure. The exciseman was the other oracle, who was on an equal footing with the parson; but the clerk occupied a lower position, and was equally important at some ale-house near the church, as became his station."

1784	To James Cooper for a bitch fox . . .	1	8	
1787	To carting for ye gates from Neston . . .	1	0	
	To the new Church Gates	2	7	
	Paid to William Witehead for flagging the church	12	0	
1801	Ringing for News of Peace	0	10	

This was the Peace of Amiens, concluded between France and England. Buonaparte had endeavoured to ruin England by a coalition of the Northern Powers, but the British naval victory at Copenhagen, the surrender of Malta, and Abercromby's victory in Egypt defeated his plans.

1806	Oct. 3. A new pitchpipe	7	6	

One of these instruments is still to be seen in a house at Stoak.

1810	Expences of a journey to Chester to pay in the money subscribed for the English prisoners in France	0	2	0

We see again here the hand of the inveterate enemy of England—Buonaparte. All his aggressions in Europe had but one aim, the crushing of England's world power, and the poor prisoners mentioned above were no doubt taken in the Peninsular War, perhaps at the bloody battle of Talavera, fought in the previous July. Thus does a simple entry in the books of a peaceful country parish vividly recall the heroic struggle against a tyrant, and yet there be some who "see no interest in musty old papers"!

1816	Carting Bricks for repairing steeple . . .	2	6	
	Do. Stone for the church wall . . .	4	—	

The former entry is rather puzzling, as no bricks are visible in the tower, inside or out.

1822	Weathercock and cleaning the clock . .	£5	10	10

The proportions of parish expenses paid by Burton and Puddington were two-thirds and one-third respectively.

During investigation of the Wilson pedigree the registers of Neston and Shotwick were searched and the following extracts

taken, and they are now appended as a contribution to local history:—

Neston Register

Earliest Register—parchment unbound—begins "the feast daye of Saynte John baptiste 1559."

[Among early names in register are Hill, Pickavance, Modesley, Mason, Dunsterfeld, Charnock, Tottye, Benet, Lenecar, Gyll, Monela, Pemberton, Worrall, Tarleton, Telliat, Yonge, Hancock, Robinson, Caldaye, Lunte, Bushell, Bellin, Forshowe, Swone.]

1561	Feb.	14	Rowlande Cottyngham, B.
1565	Aug.	14	Robarte Coventrye sone to Wil. Covetrye, C.
„	Oct.	8	Wylliam Coventrye & Elyne Cotton, M.
1568	July	23	Wylliā Cottingham, B.
„	Nov.	16	Robarte Coventrie, B.
1569	Nov.	2	John Houghe son of Mr Tho Houge (*sic*), C.
1572	Apl.	19	Henry Shurlock & Jone Benet, M.
1573	Aug.	18	Margerye Houghe wyfe of Ryd H. eſqire, B.
„	„	28	Ales Cottyngham dought. to Joh̄ Cottynhā, B.
1574	Maye	6	Margarete Houghe dought to Henrie Houghe, C.
„	July	21	Robarte Lyghtfoote & Besse Cottynghā, M.
„	Dec.	13	Ryc Houghe Esquire, B.
„	Feb.	3	John Houghe and Margerie Bellin, M.
1576	Mar.	19	John Robynson of Kirbye husbn̄, B.
1577	Mar.	8	Henrye Houghe son to Thom̄ [?] Houghe gen., B.
1578	Maye	4	Arthure Glegge son to Wyllia^9^ Glegge Esquire, C.
„	Oct.	16	Wylliā Fletcher & Jane Cottyngham, M.
1580	Nov.	3	Jane Houghe wife to Wyłłi Houghe Esquyre, B.
1582	Apl.	24	Robarte Wylson and Blannche Cooke, M.
„	Dec.	23	Thomas Coventrye & An Telyar, M.
1583	Aug.	24	George Massye, B.
1584	June	19	Cateryne Whytmore doughter to Wyllia^9^ Whytmore gent, C.
1585	Sep.	22	Joh̄ Cottyngham of Ledsom, B.
1586	Apl.	22	Cateryne Whytmore dought to Wylli^9^ Whytmore gent, C.
„	Mar.	13	Margarete Cottynghā wedowe, B.
1587	Apl.	8	Cateryne Whytmore dought to Wylli^9^ Whytmore gen., B.
„	Aug.	29	Jane Cottyngham, bur.
1590	June	4	Thom̄ Cottyngham and Mary Cottyngham, M.
„	Oct.	8	Thom̄ Betson and Cateryne Cottyngham, M.
„	Jan.	2	Jhon Cottyngham, B.
1591	July	3	Robarte Whytmore & Margerye Jumpe, M. [This entry out of place.]

1591	Nov.	23	Jhon Whytmor gent, B.
1592	Apl.	27	Margerye Houghe wyfe to John Houghe gent, B. [1] [Thomas Betson signs register as "Clerk."]
„	Oct.	25	John Houghe and Elnor Cottyngham, M.
„	Nov.	11	John Cottyngeham son to Thomas C:, C.
„	Dec.	19	Margarete Cottyngham, B.
„	„	20	Margerye Whytmore, B.
„	Jan.	4	Elyzabethe Whytmore gent, B.
1593	Mar.	2	Jhōn Cottyngham, B.
1594	July	...	Elsabethe Cottyngham do. to Tho. Cottyngham, C.
„	Jan.	1	John Whytmore son to Robarte Whitmore, C.
„	„	13	John Whytmore, infant, B.
1595	Aug.	18	Elyne Cottyngham dought. to James C:, C.
„	„	31	John and Elyzabeth children to Ryc. Houghe borne at one byrthe, C.
„	Oct.	18	Elyne Cottyngham infante, B.
1596	Maye	18	Antonye Houghes son to Jho H. gent, C.
„	June	19	Margarete Massye, B.
„	Oct.	24	Marye Cottinghā dought to James C:, C.
1597	Apl.	17	Marye Cottinghā dought to Rob C:, C.
„	„	29	Thom Cottinghā son to Thom̃ C:, C.
1591	Nov.	17	Elyne Houghe dought to Ryc H:, B.
1597	Mar.	10	Margarete Wylson dought to Jhon W:, C.
1598	Maye	21	Ales Houghe dout. to Ryc Houghe, C.
„	June	25	Thomas Cottyngham infant, B.
„	Sep.	26	Ryc Houghe gent, B.
1599	Apl.	4	Margreat Cottingham doughter to Tho. Cottingham, C.
1600	Sept.	10	John Cottyngham infant, B.
1601	Mar.	8	Cateryne Cottyngham wyfe to Robarte Cottingham, B.
„	July	13	Barbara Egerton doughter to Mr Ryc. Egerton, Esquire, C.
„	Dec.	1	Elyne Wylson doughter to John Wylson, C.
„	„	2	Elyne Edge doughter to Antony E:, B.
„	Mar.	15	Jone Cottyngham, infante, B.
1602	Apl.	6	Elizabeth Wynstanley widow, B.
„	Oct.	23	Elyzabeth Whitmore a yonge woman, B.
1603	Apl.	5	Margaret Cottyngham infant, B.
„	Aug.	25	Jane Wylson d: to John Wilson, B.
„	Sep.	9	Charles Cottyngham s: to Thom̃s C:, C.
„	Dec.	15	Thom̃s Massey & Ales Cottyngham, M.
1604	Jan.	1	Ellen Wylson d: to John Wylson, B.

[1] ? There may have been two Thomas Betson's; Elizabeth Betson, wife to Thomas Betson, was buried Nov. 1597.

1605	Apl.	10	Ellen Wylson d: to John Wylson, C.
1606	Nov.	13	Robte Cottinghm̄ of Leadsom Yeoman, B.
1608	Nov.	14	Ellen Cottynghm̄ d: to Thoms̄ C:, C.
1609	Dec.	25	Thoms̄ Betson Cler, B.
1610	Jan.	26	John Cottynghm̄ c Elizabeth Bambell, M.
1611	May	6	Willm̄ Wylson & Mg̃ret Deane, M.
1612	Jan.	12	Elizabeth Cotynghm̄, B.
1613	Nov.	25	Ellen Coventrye wydowe, B.
„	Dec.	9	Thoms̄ Massye, husbandman, B.
„	„	21	John, son to Thoms̄ Massye decd, B.
„	Feb.	16	John Wi ? lson husbandman, B.[1]
1614	Oct.	17	Thoms̄ Bybbye & Mgret Young, M.
1617	Jan.	26	Thoms̄ Cottyngham of Litle Neston, B.
„	Feb.	15	Marye Cottyngham of Litle Neston, B.
„	June	12	Willm Galloway of Liverpool, B.
„	Nov.	9	Elizabeth d: to John Houghe, C.
1618	Mar.	23	Wiłłm Boone gent, B.
1619	June	9	John Cottingham & M'gerye Betson, M.
„	Feb.	28	Wiłłm Evans & Mgret Wylson, M.
1620	June	19	John s: to John Cottynghm̄, C.
„	Aug.	2	Ales d: to John Hough, C.
1622	Jan.	20	Hester d: to John Cottinghm̄, C.
1623	Aug.	24	Richard s: to John Houghe, C.
„	Oct.	18	Richard s: to John Houghe, B.

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[1] In the Name of God, Amen, the xijth day of January in the year of our Lord God 1613, I John Wilson the unprofitable svant of God, weake in body . . . [here follows a long religious exordium]

My corps to be buryed in the church or churchyard of Neston.

My wife and my sonne Hugh executors.

I doe assigne the grange ground unto my wife and my sonne Hugh . . .

To my daughter Margret xxx^{li} and a feather bed and to be kept at the house four years.

To my daughter Ellin xxx^{li} and a feather bed and to be kept at the house eleven years.

Unto my brother Hugh my greene cloake.

Unto my sister Margrett an angell of gold.

Unto my brother Richard Betteley vj^{s}.

Unto Margery Geffrey ij^{s}.

Unto Margrett Harding ij^{s}.

William Dunsterfield of Kirby [? Raby] oweth mee iiij^{li}. Thomas . . . ? oweth me xx^{s}.

Witnesses Thomas Briscoe, John Gertry ? and divers others.

John Wilson his marke.

Inventory of John Wilson late of the parish of Neston by Hugh Wilson, John Gertrie, Thomas Coltor ? and John Kirk xxxxvij^{li} (?) viij^{s}. viij^{d}.

Pro 1614 at Chester.

1623	Jan.	27	Hughe Wilson of Thorton, B.[1]
1624	Sep.	[12?]	Thomas s. to John Cottinggame, B.
1625	May	[1?]	Elizabeth d. to Mr Thomas Savage, C.
„	June	15	M^riffe Kathren Hough of Thornton, B.
			[Portion faded out.]
1626	Mar.	26	Nethenyell sonne to Wiłłm Wylson, C.
„	Aug.	12	Thoms Bente & Ellen Cottingham, M.
			[Faded out here.]
1629	July	12	Anne d: to Mr Broome, B.
„	Dec.	14	Kathren wife to Raph Massie, B.
„	„	28	Jane d: to John Houghe, C.
„	Jan.	17	Thom̄s s: to Charles Cottinghm̄, C.
„	Feb.	10	Kathren Melse widow, B.
„	„	21	Jonathan sonne to Wiłłm Wylson, C.
1630	Apl.	2 [?9]	Sybille Glegge wydowe, B.
„	Sep.	30	Blanch Whitmore widow, B.
„	Dec.	5	Elizabeth d. to Mr Broome, B.
1632	May	27	Elizabeth d. to Charles Cottinghm̄, C.
„	Oct.	13	John s. to Mr Broome, B.
1633	Feb.	2	Ellen Wylson wydowe, B.
„	Mar.	9	Marye d. to Charles Cottinghm̄, C.
1635	Aug.	8	Marye d. to Charles Cottinghm̄, B.
„	Nov.	8	Anne d. to Christopher Wilson, C.
„	Feb.	24	Mr John Meoles, B.
1636	Apl.	12	Charles Cottingham of Little Neston, B.
„	July	24	Anne d. to John Houghe, C.
1637	Feb.	15	M^riffe Mgret Cottinghm̄ of litle Neston, B.
1639	Jan.	22	Wiłłm Wylson frō Leighton, B.[2]
1640	Aug.	30	Wiłłm s. to George Cottinghm̄, B.
„	Sep.	4	George Cottinghm̄ of Leadsome, B.
„	„	26	Jane late wife of George Cottinghm̄, B.
„	Mar.	4	Edwd s. to Mr Clement Foster, B.
„	„	14?	Mr John Cottinghm̄ of Litle Neston, B.
1641	Sep.	11	John Cottinghm̄ & Dorthy Warmynshm, M.
1642	June	3	Nehemiah s to Mr Golde, C.
„	July	3	Elizabeth d to John Cottinghm̄, C.
1644	July	17	Thom̄s s to John Cottinghm̄, C.
„	Jan.	7	Cicillye wife to Wiłłm Wylson, B.
1646	June	1	Wm Whitmore of Leighton Esq., B.
1650			A number of Pott entries inserted 1650–8.

[1] Inventory of all such goodes as Hugh Willson of Thornton Hough did possesse . . and one tacke of grounde more of William Prenton of the same towne which was left to the administrators, by John Bordman, William Evans, John Worrall, and Wiłłm Erbie xviij May 1626.

The tacke of ground was valued at vj^li xiij^s iiij^d, and the rest of the inventory consists of debts owing to testator about £60.

[2] His will is not at Chester or P.C.C.

			A number of Cook entries inserted 1650–9.
			[Gap to 1661.]
1662	June	8	Charles s to Thomas Cottingham, C.
1663	Mar.	14	Mary d to Thomas Cottingam of little Neston, C.
1656	Oct.	2	Thomas s. to Darcy Savage Esq., B.
„	„	20?	Jane d. to Thos Coventry of Neston, C.
„	„	. . .	Jane d. to Thos Coventry, B.
1658	June	19	Thomas Cottingham and Elizabeth Edwards, M.
1659	Aug	14	Elizabeth d. to Thomas Cottingham, bap.
			[Gap.]
1660	Oct.	4	John Cottingham of Gt Neston, B.
„	Dec.	27	Margarett d of Thos. Cottingham of Little Neston, C.
1664	Sep.	13	William Hunter son to William Hunter, gent. in the Co. of Sleigo in ye kingdom of Ireland, B.
„	Feb.	12	John s to Thomas Coventry in this town, C.
1665	Sep.	25	Eliz d to Thomas Coventry, B.
„	„	27	John s. to Thos Coventry, B.
„	„	29	Thos Coventry, B.
„	„	„	Thos s to Thos Coventry, B.
[Dec. 1665]			The plague ceased thanks be unto God.
[In Oct. 1665]			A young girl of the Dutchmans, B. 1.
			another girl of the Dutchmans, B. 12.
			two more girles of the Dutchmans, B. 15.
			tow more girles of the Dutchmans, B. 19.
1667	Dec.	31	Thōs s to Thos Cottingham, C.
1669	July	1	John s to Thomas Cottingham de little Neston, C.
			[a piece painted out.]
1670	Apl.	1?	Jane d to Wm Hough, C.
„	Aug.	9	Wm Shirlock & Susan Crafts, M.
„	Sep.	1	Darcy Savage Esq. of Leighton, B.
„	Oct.	11?	William Willson of Willaston, B.[1]

[1] His will, which is torn at the top, reads—
[endorsed William Wilson of Will] . . . llaston I leave to my wiffe all my whole psonall estate that God hath given mee in this world . . . but if shee shall hapen to marie then mie desire is yt the halfe of my goods may be delivered by her to my childrens chilldren & if she doe not marie at all then my will is yt at her death my goods & monie the halfe of them shall likewise be so distributed . . . [leaves a chest to] my sun Johanathans daughter Sisley
[Appoints] Wiffe and son John Executors 25 Jan. 1661
William W Willsone
Elizabeth Bennitt
John Bellan?
Pro. 10 May 1671 by Elizabeth Wilson the other Ex^r^ being dead, at Chester.
Inventory by William Hay of Willaston, Willm Leay, of Morton, & William Greene of Willaston yeomen, £24. 16. 8.
Cattle &c. 8 13 4 foure books 0 4 0

1671	Jan.	12	Ellen Haugh widow de Thornton hough [written in margin in different ink]. [Examined to 1671.]

From Neston Transcripts at Chester

[Begin only 1581.]

1581	July	15	Cycely Deane wyfe of John Deane, bur.
„	Dec.	24	Buse? Deane and Ales Worrold.
„	Jan.	22	Margery Deane dau to Ryc Deane, bap.
„	„	24	Margery Deane, buried.
„	„	29	Thomas Telliet and Margaret Charnock, mar.
[1582]	Apl.	24	Robertus Wylson and Blanche Cooke, mar.
1593	Jan.	19	Marye Deane daughter to Ryc Deane, bap.
„	Mar.	28	Marye Deane infant, bur.
			Non communicantes Wyllyam Whytmore gent and his wyfe Ales Whytmore.

Shotwick Register

The earliest Register is of parchment, 13 × 9 × ½, thick boards, earliest entry 1681, regular entries 1698.

The following are some of the names occurring in the Register:—Hiccock of Woodbank, Yeõn; Grey, farmer, of Ledsham; Hale of Saughall, Yeõn; Briscall of Eastham, farmer; Dod of Crabhall, husbandman; Done; Davies; Heskyth; Bushel of Ledsam.

1690	Apl.	17	Edward Walsh Gent being a stranger or of ye Parish of Stockton in ye County of Worcester, bur.
1698	Oct.	11	Margret, the dau of Robert Janny, Cleric, bap.
„	„	28	Margret, the dau of Robert Janny, Cleric, bur.
„	Feb.	26	Thomas Richards of Shotwick, Schm̃r, bur. Ro. Janny, Curate.
1699	June	15	Thomas Doe of Saughall pv̄a, mariner, bur.
„	Mar.	9	Joseph Hockenhull, Esq., bur.
1700	Apl.	13	Isabella Waite d. to Thomas Waite of Chester Gent, bur.
„	Oct.	24	Mrs Elizabeth Hockenhull, widdow, bur.
1701	Aug.	3	Samuel s. of Robt Janny of Shotwick, Cleric, bap.
1702	June	1	Margret, d. of James Hockenhull of Shotwick, Esq., bap.
1703	June	3	Mary, d. of James Hockenhull of Shotwick, Esq., bap.

1703	Sep.	13	James Doe of Trinity par:, Chester, Gent., bur.
„	Mar.	15	Elizabeth Hockenhull of Shotwick, widd., gent., bur.
1704	July	24	Alice d: of John Massey of Saughall Magna, Yeom., bap.
„	Aug.	7	Alice d: of John Massey of Saughall Magna, Yeom., bur.
			J. Hodson, Curate.
1705	Sep.	6	Richard s. of John Massey of Saughall Magna, Yeom., bap.
„	„	13	Henry Totty of Heswall Carpent. and Elizabeth Richardson of Gayton, married.
„	Oct.	5	Sidny d. of James Hockenhull of Shotwick, Esq., bap.
1706	Jan.	2	Robert Harvie of Tarvin, Schmaster, & Martha Smith of Barrow, Wid., mar.
„	„	30	Benjn: Watmough of the parish of Bebington, & Hannah Pemberton of Saughall par., mar.
			Tho. Harvie, Curate.
1707	Aug.	25	Elizabeth d. of James Hockenhull of Shotwick, Esq., bap.
1708	Aug.	1	John Ledsom & Elizabeth Massey both of Saughall Mag., mar.
1709	Dec.	18	Joseph s. to Edward Harvey of St. John's par. in Chester, bap.
„	„	25	Joseph s. to James Hockenhull of Shotwick, Esq., bap.
			Edward Forshall, Curate.
1711	July	9	John, s. of James Hockenhull of Shotwick, Esq., bap.
„	Sep.	9	Margaret, d. of Rd: Massey of Shotwick, bap.
1712	Aug.	12	John Meoles of the parish of Burton and Elizabeth Joseph of the parish of Shottwicke, mar., by lic., dated 11 Aug.
„	Jan.	19	Elizabeth wife of John Moeles of Burton, mariner, bur.
„	Mar.	5	John, s. of Richard Massey of Shotwick, bap.
			John Hiccock, Curate.
1713	June	13	Jane d. of James Hockenhull of Shotwick, Esq., bap.
„	Sep.	17	Jane d. of James Hockenhull of Shotwick, Esq., bur.
1714	Aug.	12	Richard s. of Mr William Hockenhull, bap.
„	Oct.	28	Mary d. of William Massey of Saughall Magna, bap.
„	Feb.	9	Rebekka d. of Rd. Massey of Shotwick, bap.
„	„	14	Thomas Nevitt of Saughall Magna, bur.

1714	Feb.	17	Margarett Massey wid. of Shotwick, bur.
1715	Dec.	25	Robt Price of Garthvaynol in ye co. of Denbigh, Gent., and Elizabeth Hughes of St. John's par. in Chester, mar., by lic.
„	Jan.	2	Henry, s. of James Hockenhull of Shotwick, Esq., bap.
„	Feb.	12	Willi^a^ Nevitt of Shotwick Park, & Margarett Bennett of Saughall Magna, mar.
1716	Apl.	29	Thomas, s. of William Massey of Saughall Magna, bap.
„	Mar.	6	Richard, s. of Rd. Massey of Shotwick, bap.
„	„	15	Samuel, s. of William s. of John Nevett of Shotwick, bap. [*sic*].
1718	Jan.	1	Martha, d. of William Massey of Saughall Magna, bap.
1719	Apl.	5	Mary, d. of Richard Massey of Shotwick, bap.
„	„	„	Henry, s. of Madam Hockenhull of Shotwick, bur.
„	May	17	Mary, d. of Rd. Massey of Shotwick, bur.
„	June	25	Elizabeth, d. of Wm: Nevitt of Shotwick Park, bap.
„	Jan.	(10?)	William, s. of John Gamon of Woodbank, bap.
1720	Aug.	1	William March of Prescott in Lancashire, & Alice Leadbeater of Leuerpoole, mar.
„	Oct.	10	Hannah, d. of Wm. Massey of Saughall Magna, bap.
„	Nov.	20	Thomas, s. of Rd. Massey of Shotwick, bap.
1721	July	13	Anne, d. of Wm. Massey of Saughall Magna, bur.
„	Oct.	17	Thos [Brereton?] of Parkgate in Neston parish, bur.
1722	Apl.	22	Elizebeth, d. of John Gaemon of Woodbank, yēon, bap.
„	May	20	William, s. of William Massey of Saughall Magna, bap.
1723	Apl.	9	. . . . ? s. of Rd. Massey of Shotwick, bap.

[Register ends 21 Mar. 1723–4.]

Shotwick Transcripts at Chester

[Years not mentioned are missing; Christenings, Weddings, and Burials begin 1591.]

1591 ——
1599 practically gone.
1600 Elizabeth d. of James Cottingham 4 Nov bap.
Jo Langdale curate.

1605 Anne the supposed d. of James Hockenhull 10 Aug bap.
„ Anna the supposed d. of George Cottingham 16 Sep bap.
„ John the s of George Massy 15 Dec bap.
1607 William s of George Massey 29 Jan bap.
Brian Deane curato.
1608 John Bennett the elder and Jane Cottingham 16 Dec.
„ John Bennett the younger and Marie Cottingham eodem die [16 Dec].
„ Ellin Langdale bur 16 May.
Peter Barker curate.
1609 . . . . filius Georgii Massy de Saughall magna bur 20 Feb.
1610 Elizabeth Massie d to George Massie bap. 3 Mar.
„ Ann the wife of Ralph Massie ? Mosse bur 7 Jan.
William Norcotte curate.
1611 Elizabeth d of George Massie Jan . . . bur.
1614 much torn.
1615 Elizabeth d. of George Massey bap 22 Jan.
1617 ——
1618 John Moran curate.
1622 ——
1623 ——
1624 . . . [worn away] son of John Cottingham bap 11 Apl.
„ George s of John Webster bap 13 Oct.
1626 ——
1627 . . . beth d. of John Webster bap 12 Aug.
„ Thomas s of John Cottingham bap 21 Oct.
1630 Geo Cottingham bap May 2.
„ Thomas Cottingham Jan 27 bur.
Tho? Trafford Minister.
1631 John s of Mr. George Co*ll*ingham [*sic*] of Ledsham bap Jan 22.
„ John King of Chester batchelor bur. July 20.
1632 Eliz d of John Cottingham of Shotwick Nov 25 bap.
„ Jo. Hockenhull Oct 22 bur.
1634 Georgius fil. Johanis Massey bapt Feb 22.
1637 Mari Massey de Shotwick sep. Jan 24.
1638 Jacobus Cottingham fil. Johāis Cot. bapt Oct 7.
„ Maria Massey filia Johāis Massey bapt Oct 14.
1639 Georgius Cottingā fil. Georg. Cot. de Ledsō bapt Feb 10.
Tho. Yates minister.
1641 Peregrinus Hibernicus peste infectus sepultus fuit Junii 24° die.
„ Johañes Suddon et Aña Hockenhull de Shotwick nupti fuerunt July 27.
1642 Georgius Massey gener. sepultus fuit 23 June.
1658 "Unlawful mariges since the year 1658."
George Cottingham of Shottwicke.
Georg Massy of Shottwicke.

Churchwalles out of Repare beinge broken downe by the Late Kinges party in barracadinge up the Church doures desiringe a time to be given for ye Repare.

[Here follow some presentments.]

1669 Benj. Harrison, Curate.
*1668 ——
*1669 James son of Will. Hockenhull Nov 20 bap.
*1670 ——
*1672 Mar 9 George son of John Cottingham bap.

[* These four years all on one sheet.]

Franc. Wood Minist.

1671 ——
1675 ——
1676 Dec 7th Susanna d. of Mr Wm Hockinhull [? bap].
1679 *Burialls*—Following portion is in the last stages of decay, and is therefore copied.

Apl 25 Mary Hickock.
„ 30 Ann Bellen.
June 5 Ann Ca . . ter.
July 16 William Davise [? Dennis].
„ . . . Joseph Hockenhull Esqr.
„ . . . . . Booth.
Aug. 20 William Crosse.
Sept. . . Da . . . ? Fox.
„ . . Robert Me ? . . .

Marriages—

Candrik Williams and Mary Williams Aprill 26.
Robert . . . and Ann Beck ?
James Heylin and Christen Heylin June 5.
Ethell Jones . . . Cowup 6 July.
William Cowup and Jane Hale by lic dated 2 Feb mar. 3 Feb.

1680 John Joseph & Mary Massey both of Shotwick Feb 14.
1681 ——
1682 June 5 Joseph Hockenhull bap.
„ Nov 22 George Webster and Margret Lanclet both of S.
„ Oct 3 Margret Hockenhull bur.
„ Mar 20 Joseph Hockenhull bur.

Joseph Kelsall Minister.

1690 ——
1691 Feb 26 Mary d. of Bengemen Wilson bap.
1694 John Massey a churchwarden.
1695 ——
1696 ——
1697 Ro: Janny curate.

The following will of an early incumbent of Shotwick may find a place here. He lies buried in the chancel as he desired, under

a flagstone marked with his initials and the date I. C. C. | 1587 |. The vulgar tradition is that the letters are intended to represent a bit and two stirrups:—

In the name of God, amen, 27 Sept 1587, 29 Eliz. I Sr John Carter curat of Shotwycke . . . to be buryed in the chancell of Shotwyke. Imprimis I am suretye to Richard Bushell of Ledsam for my brother fouck Carter of Chester for one bushell of barley pryce 17/ and for the house which I erected on Raffe Carters ground wherein I now dwell I geve yt to Jane Carter syster to the sayd Raffe according to the bargayne wch I made which was &c. Item Roger Carter of Great Saughall my kynsman oweth me £4. 6. 8 and after this maſ I do bestow it. To John Carter sonne to the sayd Roger xx^s and to my sister Margret xxvj^s viij^d and the rest to be equally divided between my ij children. To my sonne Robert my grownd which I hold of Willya^9 Danis of Wodbanke. To my sonne John my lands of grownd which I hould of Raffe Grymsdiche. To my brother fouke grograym to make him a doblet. To my brother Randall Carter one stryke of barlye. To Jane Carter one lande of grownd in Wodbankfyeld joyning to the grownd of George mere. Rest to Jane Carter and her ij sonnes Robert and John. Ex^rs my ij sonnes Robert and John and my brother fowke; my cozyne Roger Carter, Thomas Whytfeld the younger and John Carter overseers. Witnesses Thomas Harnye, Thomas Whytfeld, John Carter, Raffe Carter. [Amongst schedule of debtors] my uncle Richard Carter, my brother fowkes wyffe.

Inventory—

Proved 1587 at Chester.

INDEX

[——] *signifies the Christian name has either been omitted or is illegible in the original manuscript.*

The asterisk following a page number denotes that the name appears more than once on that page.

ABERCROMBY, his victory in Egypt, 81
Abraham, E. Mitford, 23
Admōns. *See* Wills
Agincourt, 28
Ainsworth. *See* Aynsworth
Air, Point of, 41
Allene, George, 57 *n.**
Altcar [Altkar], 66*
America, 35
Amiens, Peace of, 81
Amon, Peter, 78
Andrew, Thomas, 52 *n.*
Andrews, Simon, 22, 59
Anion, Annyan, Henry, 76
—— John, 52 *n.*
—— Walter, 78
Anthropometry, 23
Antonie, George, 38, 64 *n.*
Aphugh, Edward, 50
—— Ellen, 50
Appendix, 43
Arms—Beauchamp of Bedford, 38; Birch, 11; Champion, 7 *n.*; Clifton, 12 *n.*, 37, 38; Congreve, 6, 11, 13, 14; De Vere, 38; Fitzherbert, 7 *n.*; Gladstone, 7; Grosvenor, 40; Jackson, 13 *n.*; Lichfield, 6; Mandeville. 38; Massey of Puddington, 13, 37, 38, 39, of Tatton, 39; Scrope, 40; Stanley, 12 *n.*, 37; Stretton, 7 *n.*; Valentine, 13; Wilson, 33
Artinstall, Robert, 19
Ascham, 35
Ashbrook, Thomas, 72 *n.**
Ashenhurst, Frances, 73*
—— Francis, 19, 73*, 75
Axon, E., 8 *n.*
Aynsworth, Catherine, 56
—— Randle, 56
BACKFORD, 74 *n.*
Bagot, R., 20
Bailey, Ellen, 44 *n.*
Bainbridge, Jane, 72 *n.*, 73 *n.*
—— John, 72 *n.*, 73 *n.**
—— Martha, 73 *n.*
—— Mary, 73 *n.*
—— Samuel, 68, 69
—— Sarah, 73 *n.*
—— Thomas, 10, 19, 68, 69, 72, 72 *n.**
Baird, Andrew Boyd, 15
Baker, Francis, 73 *n.*
Bale [? Ball], Catherine, 49
Ball, Elizabeth, 51
—— John, 77
—— Robert, 65
—— Thomas, 52 *n.**
—— Widow, 78*
Balshawe, Thomas, 58 *n.*
Bambell, Elizabeth, 84
Bamvell, Ellen, 49
—— Francis, 49
Bank, co. Lanc., 32 *n.*
Banner, Richard, 19
Baring-Gould, (Rev.) S., 8 *n.*
Barker, Peter, 90
Barlow, William, 55 *n.*
Barrow, 88
—— Thomas, 10, 38
—— William, 79
Barrows, Thomas, 64 *n.*
Basford, Robert, 19
Bath, 32 *n.**, 33 *n.*
—— Alfred House at, 31
Beauchamp of Bedford, Arms, 38
Beavin, John, 68 *n.*
Bebington, 54 *n.*, 72 *n.*, 88
Beck, Ann, 91
Bellin [Bellan, Bellen], Anne, 91
—— John, 86 *n.*

Bellin, Margerie, 82
Bells. *See* Burton Church
Benacre Hall, Suffolk, 32 *n.*
"Bend Or," the racehorse, 40
Bennett, Benet, Bennet, Bennitt, Elizbeth, 86 *n.*
—— Jane, 90
—— John, 76, 90*
—— Jone, 82
—— Margaret, 89
—— Mary, 66 *n.*, 90
—— Robert, 76
—— Thomas, 69 *n.*
Bente, Ellen, 85
—— Thomas, 85
Berkenhead, Margaret, 57 *n.*
—— Thomas, 57 *n.*
Bethell, Hugh, 19
—— Mr., 62 *n.*
Betson, Bettson, Catherine, 82
—— Elizabeth, 83 *n.*
—— Margery, 84
—— Thomas, 72 *n.*, 82, 83, 83 *n.**, 84
Betteley, Richard, 84 *n.*
Beveridge, (Dr.) William, 35
Bibby, Margaret, 84
—— Thomas, 84
Bidston, 68 *n.*, 70, 70 *n.*
Big Crossgraves, 26
Birch, George, 12
—— Mary Ann, 12
—— Memorial Tablet, 12
—— Memorial Window, 14
—— Sarah, 14
Birkenhead. *See* Berkenhead
Bishop's Burton, 5
Bishop's Court, 29, 31
Bithum, and Foot road Bithum, 26
Blackburne, John, 64 *n.*
Blinston, Peter, 19, 53 *n.*, 55 *n.**
Boardman. *See* Bordman
Bold, Bould, Bowde, Anna, 48
—— Richard, 48*, 54 *n.**
Bollington, 54 *n.*
Bolton. *See* Boulton
Book-plate, Bishop Wilson's, 35; Sir Samuel Prince's, 36
Boone, William, 84
Booth [Bothe], [——], 91
—— Dorothy, 54 *n.*
—— John, 19
Bordman, John, 85 *n.*
Bouchier. *See* Bowsher
Boughton, 52 *n.*
Bould. *See* Bold
Boulton, Laurence, 53
Bowcok, T., 17
Bowd. *See* Bold
Bower, Joseph, 20
Bowsher, Rd., 32 *n.*
Brabant, Thomas, 52 *n.**
Branthwaite, Elizabeth, 44
—— Susannah, 44*
Bray, 35
Breeche, Anne, 54 *n.*
Brereton, (Sir) Randle, 54 *n.**
—— Thomas, 89
Brewer, Anne, 55 *n.*
Briscoe, Thomas, 84 *n.*
Broad Hey, 28, 69 *n.*
Bromborough Mills, 65 *n.*
Brook Looms, 26
Broome, Anne, 85
—— Elizabeth, 85
—— John, 85
—— Mr., 85*
Broughall, John, 58 *n.*, 78
Brown [Browne], Henry, 77
—— James, 73 *n.*
—— John, 73 *n.*
—— Katherine, 71 *n.*
—— Martha, 73 *n.*
—— Sarah, 21, 61
—— Thomas, 77
Brownbill, J., 5 *n.*
Brownsword, Thomas, 75
Brownsworth, Alice, 75
—— Anne, 75
—— Jonathan, 75
—— William, 75
Buonaparte, 81*
Burford, John, 32 *n.*
Burges, Anne, 50
Burley, John de, 39
Burrowes, William, 73 *n.*
Burton, Acreage of, 4
—— Charities, 16, 28 *n.*, 65 *n.*, 73 *n.*, 74 *n.*
—— Church, 5*, 9, 36, 53 *n.**, 55 *n.**, 73 *n.*
—— —— Bells, 17, 56, 57
—— —— Clock, 17
—— —— Dedication, 8
—— —— Grant of Church and Manor, 18
—— —— Inscriptions in, 11
—— —— Lectern, 8, 14
—— —— Plate, 18
—— —— Repairs, 81
—— —— Steeple, 56
—— Churchwardens' Accounts, 80
—— Churchyard, Inscriptions in, 17, 43
—— Cop, 22
—— Curates, 18, 19, 20
—— Etymology, of, 24
—— Fishery, 9
—— Hall, 5, 7

Burton, Hearth Taxes, 77–79
—— Incumbents of, 18
—— Inhabitants of, in anno 1545, 76–77
—— Inscribed Stones, 21
—— Legends of battles, vikings, &c., 22
—— Library, 35
—— Manor, 6, 7, 18
—— Market, 4
—— Marsh, 4
—— Mill, 23, 58
—— Parish Registers, 20; Extracts, 46–76
—— Plague at, 59 *n.*
—— Point, 21, 22, 25, 28
—— Poors' Fund, Table of Benefactions, 16, 28 *n.*
—— Port, 4, 9
—— Presentments, 9
—— Quaker graves, 8
—— Rectors, Curates, and Vicars, 18, 19, 20
—— School, Bishop Wilson's, 29, 31 *n.*, 32 *n.*
—— Skeletons discovered on the Point, 22
—— Sundial, 17
—— Tithes, 19
—— Vicarage, Inscribed Stone, 21
—— Vicars of, 18, 20
—— Village, 5
Burton, Robert, 55 *n.*
Bushell, John, 53, 53 *n.*
—— Richard, 92

CALDY, 52 *n.*
Calkin, Edward, 46, 46 *n.*
—— Elizabeth, 46
—— Mary, 46, 46 *n.*
Calley, John, 76
Calveleghe, Hugh de, 39
Camp, Roman or British, 26
Campbell, (Rev.) Augustus, 12
—— (Rev.) E. A. P., 12
—— Elizabeth, 12
—— (Rev.) J. Pitcairn, 12, 14
Canterbury, William, Lord Bishop of, 35
Capenhurst, 55 *n.*
Capper, John, 16
Carter, Anne, 91
—— Foulk, 92*
—— Jane, 48, 92*
—— John, 48, 92*
—— Margaret, 92
—— Raffe, 92*; Randle, 92
—— Richard, 92
—— Robert, 92*
Carter, Roger, 92*
Cartwright, Elizabeth, 63
—— Robert, 78
Castle fields, 26
Castle Hey, 26
Chained book, 16
Chamberlayne, Richard, 55 *n.*
Chanelegh, William de, 19
Charlestown, Capture of, 80
Charnes, John de, 19
Charnock, Ellinor, 66 *n.*; Ellnn, 66 *n.*
—— Margaret, 87
Cheshire, Visitation of 1580, 39
Chester, 17, 51 *n.*, 56*, 57 *n.*, 60 *n.*, 61, 72 *n.*, 73, 74, 87, 89, 90, 92
—— Archdeaconry of, 8
—— Gaol, 41
—— King's School, 28
—— Parliament forces entered, 61
—— Plague at, 59 *n.*
—— St. Bride's Church, 60
—— St. John's Parish, 88, 89
—— St. Michael's Parish, 71
—— St. Nicholas' Chapel, 8
—— St. Peter's, 51 *n.*
—— Trinity Parish, 88
—— Watergate, 19
Childwall, Vicar of, 12
Chorleton, 24
Christleton, 72 *n.*
Church, The, 9
—— Repairs to, 81
Churchwardens' Accounts, 80
Clapham, 32 *n.*
Clarke [Clerk], George Somers, 20
—— Thomas, 19
Cletherall, John, 54 *n.*
Clifton, Arms of, 37, 38
—— Mary, 12, 38
—— Thomas, 12, 38
Collin, Edward, 73 *n.*
Collingham, George, 90
—— John, 90
Coltor, Thomas, 84 *n.*
Congreve, co. Stafford, 11, 14, 15
Congreve, Anna Selina, 11, 15
—— Arms of, 6
—— Charles Henry, 45
—— Edward Geoffrey, 14
—— Emily, 45
—— Ethelred Victoria Frances, 45
—— Fanny Emma, 13
—— Frances Eliza, 45
—— Francis, 6 *n.*
—— Harriet Frances, 45
—— Louisa Ann, 14
—— Louisa Margaret, 45
—— Marianne, 45
—— Memorial Windows, 11, 13, 14

Congreve, Ralph, 20, 45
—— Richard, 6, 11, 12, 16, 18
—— Richard Jones, 45
—— Selina Emily Napier, 14
—— Walter Ralph, 45
—— William, 14*, 44
—— William Walter, 11, 15
Connaught, 23 *n.*
Cooke, Blanche, 82, 87
Cooper, James, 81
—— John, 17
—— *See also* Cowper, and Coper
Copenhagen, Naval victory at, 81
Coper, William, 78. *See also* Cooper, and Cowper
Copgraves, 26
Cornwallis, Admiral, 80
Cotes, Visitation of Bishop, 9
Cottingham [Cottinggame, Cottyngham], Alice, 82, 83
—— Ann, 53 *n.*; Anna, 90
—— Besse, 82
—— Catherine, 82, 83, 84
—— Charles, 83, 85*, 86
—— Dorathie, 53 *n.*, 85
—— Elizabeth, 53 *n.*, 83, 84*, 85*, 86, 89, 90
—— Ellen, 83*, 84, 85; Elnor, 83
—— George, 52, 52 *n.**, 53 *n.**, 56, 57, 85*, 90*, 91
—— Hester, 84
—— James, 83*, 89, 90
—— Jane, 82*, 85, 90; Jone, 83
—— John, 53, 53 *n.**, 55 *n.*, 82*, 83*, 84*, 85*, 86, 90*, 91
—— Margaret, 82, 83*, 85, 86
—— Mary, 53 *n.*, 57, 82, 83*, 84, 85*, 86, 90
—— R——, 71 *n.**
—— Randle, 54 *n.**
—— Robert, 52, 52 *n.*, 53, 78, 83*, 84
—— Rowlande, 82
—— Thomas, 53 *n.*, 82, 83*, 84*, 85*, 86*, 90*
—— William, 56, 82, 85
Cotton, Elyne, 82
Court, Arthur, 44
Coventry [Coventrie, Coventrye], Ann, 82
—— Elizabeth, 55, 86
—— Ellen, 84
—— Jane, 86*
—— John, 86*
—— Robert, 55, 82
—— Thomas, 82, 86*
—— William, 82*
Coventry and Lichfield, 18
Cowap, Cowup, Jane, 74, 91
Cowper, Elizabeth, 59. *See also* Cooper, and Coper
Cowup, William, 91
—— [——], 91
Cradock, Samuel, 34
Crafts, Susan, 86
Croft, Thomas, 53 *n.*
Croft Millen, 28, 69 *n.*
Cross, Ancient, 10
Cross [Crosse], Thomas, 53 *n.*
—— William, 10, 17, 58 *n.*, 91
Crossgraves, and Big and Little Crossgraves, 26
Cross Hey, 27
Croxdale, Durham, 12
Crutwell, Richard, 32 *n.*
—— Thomas Macauley, 32 *n.*
Cumming, Dame A. P. Gordon, 12
Curzon, Dame Sarah, 71 *n.*

DALE, Alice, 66
Dalton, [——], 64 *n.*
Danis, William, 92
Davenport, Mr., 74
—— Richard, 74 *n.*
Davies, Anne, 60 *n.**
—— Elizabeth, 68 *n.*
—— John, 36
Davise [? Dennis], William, 91
Dawpool, 41
Day, John, 35
—— Richard, 35
Deane, Brian, 90
—— Buse (?), 87
—— Cyceley, 87
—— John, 87
—— Margaret, 84
—— Margery, 87*
—— Mary, 87*
—— Richard, 87*
Dee Bank, 41
Dee, Estuary of the, 4
Denbigh, 89
Denhall, Denwall, Benefice, 19; House, 60 *n.*; Hospital, 18*, 73 *n.*
Denison, Thomas, 52 *n.*
Derby, 32 *n.*, 33 *n.*
—— Ferdinand, Earl of, 52
—— Henry, Earl of, 52
—— Ninth Earl of, 29
Derry, Henry, 69 *n.*
Despenser, Arms of, 38
De Vere, Arms of, 38
Devereux, John, 39
Digby, (Rev.) [——], 32 *n.*
Dinnie, Mr., 30
Dod, Robert, 44 *n.*
Doe, James, 55 *n.*, 88
—— Thomas, 87

Domesday, 5, 5 *n*, 25, 36
Done, Jane, 52
—— John, 54
Dublin, 62
—— Trinity College, 28
Dumbel, Mr. [——], 32 *n.*
Dunham Massey, Hamo Baron of, 36, 39
Dunn, Thomas, 20, 36, 45
Dunsterfield, William, 84 *n.*
Dunsterville, Edward, 60 *n.**
—— Lucy, 60 *n.**
Dunston Farm, 26
Dykes, Robert, 19

EASTHAM, 12, 16
Eaton, George, 62 *n.*
—— Robert, 61
Edge, Alice, 66
—— Anna, 55; Anne, 72, 75
—— Antony, 83
—— Catherine, 43 *n.*, 44*
—— Elizabeth, 55
—— Ellen, 83; Ellenor, 73
—— Hannah, 43 *n.*, 44 *n.*
—— James, 66*, 67, 73
—— Jane [Jahen], 67
—— [Jo?], 55
—— John, 43, 43 *n.*, 44, 44 *n.*, 53*, 55, 71, 72*, 73*, 75
—— Mary, 66, 67, 73*
—— Thomas, 44 *n.*, 71
Edwards, Elizabeth, 86
—— John, 58 *n.**
—— Phulke, 56
Egerton, Barbara, 83
—— Richard, 83
Egg penny, 42
Ellis's Highfield, 27
Elthorne [Elthorns], 66, 67
Erbie, William, 85 *n.*
Etchells, Parish Northenden, 73 *n.*
Euens, James, 78
Evans, Thomas, 17, 59
—— William, 84, 85 *n.*

FARRAR, Canon, 29
—— William, 22, 59
Field Names, 21, 22, 25
Finchett, Hannah, 68 *n.**
Fitzherbert, Arms of, 7 *n.*
Fitzwilliam, Michael, 64 *n.*
Flash Croft, 27
Fletcher, Jane, 82
—— John, 52 *n.*, 53 *n.*
—— Peter, 57 *n.*
—— Robert, 58 *n.*, 78
—— Thomas, 57 *n.*
—— William, 53 *n.*, 57 *n.*, 82
Flint, 75
Flintshire, 41
Fluit, Elizabeth, 73
—— Ellin, 74
—— Joseph, 74
—— Mr., 72, 73*
—— William, 72, 73
Foot road Bithum, and Bithum, 26
Forest laws, 6
Forshall, Edward, 88
Foster, Clement, 85
—— Edward, 85
Fox, Da. (?), 91
France, English prisoner in, 81
Friday foot, 26

GALLOWAY, William, 84
Gamon [Gaemon], Elizabeth, 89
—— John, 89*
—— William, 89
Gardner [Gardener], Henry, 76
—— John, 76
—— Margaret, 78
—— Rice, 76
Garthvaynol, 89
Gastrell, Bishop, his *Notitia Cestriensis*, 10
Gayton, 88
Geffrey, Margery, 84 *n.*
Gellyat, Gilbert, 77
Gertry [Gertrie], John, 84 *n.**
Gill, Gyll, Francis, 65 *n.*
—— John, 65 *n.*
—— Robert, 77
Gladstone, Arms of, 7
—— Henry Neville, 7
—— (Right Hon.) W. E., 7
Glaseour [Glaseor], Katherine, 71 *n.*
—— (Sr.) Richard, 47
—— Thomas, 71 *n.*
Glegg, Alice, 46
—— Arthur, 46, 47, 82
—— Eleanor, 46 *n.*
—— John, 74 *n.*
—— Sybille, 85
—— Thomas, 47
—— William, 82
Gleggs Field, Gleggs Heath, Gleggs Hey, and Gleggs Sandfield, 25
Glover, Robert, Somerset Herald, 6 *n.*
Golde, Mr. [——], 85
—— Nehemiah, 85
Gonion, Thomas, 66
Gooch, Anna Maria, 32 *n.*
—— Thomas, 32 *n.*
—— Thomas Sherlock, 32 *n.*
Goodicaker, John, 78
Gorstill, 27
Gough MSS. (Steel's Collection), 10

Gower, Lord, 70 *n.*
Gowlborne, [——], 52 *n.*
Graham, Catherine, 32 *n.*
Grasse, (Admiral) Count de, 80
Great Neston. *See* Neston
Great Saughall. *See* Saughall
Green, Richard, 32 *n.*
—— William, 72 *n.*, 86 *n.*
Gregory, Elizabeth, 15
—— John, 10, 16, 78
—— Memorial Tablet, 15
—— Thomas, 16*
—— William, 15
Gregson, John, 64 *n.*
Grice, John, 68 *n.*
Grosvenor, Arms of, 40
Grymsdiche, Raffe, 92
Gyll. *See* Gill

HALE, Jane, 91
Halliwell, Jane, 65 *n.*
Halsall, Henry, 19
Hammonds Hey, 27
Hamond, John, 58 *n.*
—— Peter, 58 *n.*, 69 *n.**, 78
Hampton, Anne, 65 *n.*
—— Elizabeth, 52
Hamstead, co. Staffs., 12
Hancke, Nimiay, 69 *n.*
Hancock [Hanckocke], Alice, 66
—— Nehemiah, 69 *n.*
—— Thomas, 66
Handley, 53, 55
Haniton, Thomas, 79
Hankinsse, Peter, 57 *n.*
Harcott, William, 55 *n.*
Harding, Margaret, 84 *n.*
Harleian MS., 39, 39 *n.*, 77*
Harman, Edward, 60 *n.*
Harnedge, Thomas, 71 *n.*
Harnye, Thomas, 92
Harper, John, 61
—— Thomas, 77
Harrington, Charles, 71 *n.*
—— Mary, 71 *n.*
Harrinson, Mr. [——], 79
Harrison, Benjamin, 91
—— John, 68
—— Mary, 68
—— Mr. [——], 24, 79
Harte, [——], 57 *n.*
Harvard College, 35
Harvey, Edward, 88
—— Joseph, 88
Harvie, Elizabeth, 88
—— Ellen, 49
—— Richard, 49
—— Robert, 88
—— (Sir) Thomas, 51; Thomas, 88
Hassall, Samuel, 20
Haugh, Ellen, 87
Haughton, 65 *n.*
Hay, William, 86 *n.*
Hayes, Joseph, 44 *n.*
—— Josephine, 44 *n.* *See also* Heys
Hayward, William, 31. *See also* Heaward
Hearth Taxes, 77–99
Heath, Fields in Burton called, 26
—— Nicholas de, 19
Heath Farm, 26
Heath Hey, ten fields called, 27
Heaward, John, 58 *n.*
—— William, 58 *n.*
—— *See also* Hayward
Helyn, John, 55 *n.* *See also* Heylin
Henshaw. *See* Hinshaw
Herbert [Herbart], Edward, 71 *n.*
—— Winifred, 58
Heswall, 4, 22, 88
Heward, John, 58 *n.*, 77. *See also* Hayward, and Heaward
Hewood, Margaret, 58
Heylin, Christen, 91
—— James, 91
—— *See also* Helyn
Heys, 73. *See also* Hayes
Hichcock, Jane, 63
—— Thomas, 63
Hicock [Hiccock, Hickock], John, 88
—— Mary, 91
Hicock's Park, 27
Higher Hammonds Hey, 27
Higinford, Rauffe, 52 *n.*
Hilbree, 59
Hind, Jone, 79
Hinshaw, Houmfrey, 78
Hist. Soc. Lancashire and Cheshire, 5 *n.*, 23 *n.*
Hockenhull, Anne, 90*
—— Elizabeth, 71 *n.*, 87, 88*
—— George, 74
—— Henry, 89*
—— James, 87*, 88*, 89, 90, 91
—— Jane, 88*
—— John, 88, 90
—— Joseph, 87, 88, 91*
—— Madam, 89
—— Margaret, 87, 91
—— Mary, 87
—— Richard, 88
—— Sarah, 74
—— Sidny, 88
—— Susanna, 91
—— William, 88, 91*
Hodgson, Jane, 47
—— J——, 88
Homlys Croft, 27

Hoole Heath, Battle of, 61
Hooses Croft, 27
Hooton, 36, 41, 64 *n.*, 70 *n.*
Hopwood, Richard, 19
Houge, Thomas, 82
Hough, Houghe, Alice, 83, 84
—— Anne, 85
—— Elinor, 83
—— Elizabeth, 83, 84
—— Elyne, 83
—— Henry, 82*
—— Jane, 82, 85, 86
—— John, 82*, 83*, 84*, 85*
—— Kathren, 85
—— Margaret, 82
—— Margery, 82*, 83
—— Richard, 82*, 83*, 84*
—— Thomas, 82
—— William, 82, 86
Houghes, Antonye, 83
—— John, 83
Howard, [——], 34
—— William, 66 *n.*
Howell, Charles, 30
Hugger Hey, Little and Great, 27
Hugh, Edward ap, 50
Hughes, Anne, 74 *n.*
—— Benjamin, 74 *n.*
—— Catharine, 74 *n.*
—— Elizabeth, 74 *n.*, 89
—— Hugh, 74
—— Margaret, 74
—— Mary, 74 *n.**
Hughson, Thomas, 64 *n.*
Hulbert, Mr. [——], 35
Hunter, William, 86*
Hurleston, Hurlston, Jane, 54, 54 *n.*
—— John, 54 *n.*
Huyton [Hyton], co. Lanc., 65 *n.*
Hyne, Walter, 57, 58 *n.*
—— William, 57
Hyton. *See* Huyton

INCE, William, 61
Inscribed Stones at Burton and Puddington, 21, 23, 38
Inventories. *See* Wills
Ireland, 4, 9*, 11, 23, 53, 57
—— Burton a port of embarkation for, 9
Irvine, W. F., F.S.A., 8, 24, 25, 36 *n.*, 42
Ithell, Jen ap, 77

JACKSON, Arms of, 13 *n.*
—— Henry, 13, 13 *n.*, 65, 70
—— John, 13, 13 *n.*, 32 *n.*, 70
—— Margreat, 13, 68
—— Martha, 13, 70
Jackson, Richard, 13*, 13 *n.*, 65, 65 *n.*, 68*, 72 *n.*
James, Robert, 79
Jannion [Janion], Anna, 51
—— Thomas, 79
—— Widow, 78
Janny, Margaret, 87*
—— Robert, 87*, 91
—— Samuel, 87
Jannyn, Thomas, 76
Jenson [Jennson], Henry, 76
—— Thomas, 77
Jewell, (Bishop) John, 34
Johnes, Daverte, 57 *n.*
—— David, 60
—— Ellin, 57 *n.*
—— George, 57 *n.*
—— Katheren, 57 *n.*
—— Nichill, 57 *n.*
—— *See also* Jones
Johnson, Edward, 65 *n.*
—— E. H., 20
—— Elizabeth, 44, 74
—— John, 65 *n.*
—— Joseph, 74
—— Sarah, 65 *n.*
Jön, William, 75*
Jones, Ethell, 91
—— George, 58 *n.*
—— Joseph, 15
—— Memorial Brass, 15
—— Nichill, 57 *n.*
—— Richard, 38, 64 *n.*
—— Robert, 17
—— William, 79
—— *See also* Johnes
Joseph, Elizabeth, 88
—— John, 91
—— Mary, 91
Jumpe, Margery, 82
Jusserand, J. J., 3 *n.*

KEBLE's Life of Bishop Wilson, 28, 34
Kelley, John, 73
Kelsall, Joseph, 91
Kelsall's Mare Hey, 27
Kendrick's Hey, 27
Kennerley, Edward, 75
—— Jane, 75
King, Charles T., 4 *n.*, 80 *n.*
—— John, 90
—— Katherine, 71 *n.*
Kinnerton, 74 *n.*
Kiplin, John, 73 *n.*
Kirby [? Raby], 84 *n.*
Kirbye, 82. *See also* West Kirby
Kirk, John, 84 *n.*
Kirk Michael, 29, 29 *n.*

Kneuell, William, 78. *See also* Newell
Kniveton, Edward, 55 *n.*
Kynersley, F. C. Sneyd, 35, 36

LANCLET, Margret, 91
Langdale, Ellin, 90
—— Jo., 89
Langhorne, T. R., 20
Langley, Ellena, 50
Langtree, Edward, 54 *n.*
Larden, Catherine, 44
—— (Rev.) G. H., 44
—— Hannah Maria, 44 *n.*
—— John, 44 *n.**
—— Kezia, 44 *n.*
Larken, Phillipe, 79
Larkin, Patricke, 65 *n.*
Latham [Laetham, Lathom], Alice, 71 *n.*
—— Katherine, 67
—— William, 64 *n.*
Lea, Widow, 79. *See also* Leay, Lee
Leadbeater, Alice, 89
—— Thomas, 65 *n.*
Leader, Jane, 16
—— John, 62 *n.*
—— Stephen, 72 *n.*
Lealand [Leland], co. Lanc., 64 *n.**
Leather, John, 21, 61, 62
—— Robert, 58
—— Sarah, 61
—— Timothy, 20, 61 *n.*, 62
—— Widow, 78
—— William, 58
Leay, William, 86 *n.* *See also* Lea, Lee
Lech, Joseph, 66
Ledsham [Ledsome], 52 *n.*, 53, 53 *n.*, 56, 57, 82, 84, 85, 90*, 92
—— Elizabeth, 88
—— John, 88
Lee, John, 74 *n.*
—— Sidney, 29 *n.*, 31 *n.*
—— *See also* Lea, and Leay
Leigh Church, co. Staff., 75
Leighton, 85*, 86
Leinster, 23 *n.*
Leland, 64 *n.*
Letherland, Mr. [——], 79
Leyne, Richard, 76
Library, Bishop Wilson's, 34
Lichfield and Coventry, Arms of, 6
—— See of, 6
Lichfield, Hospital of St. John in, 19
—— Master of ye hospital at, 10
Lidgete, 65 *n.*
Lightfoot [Lyghtfoote], Edward, 76
—— Elen, 16
—— Elizabeth, 82
—— Peter, 57 *n.*
—— Ralph, 56 *n.*, 58 *n.*, 62 *n.*, 66 *n.*, 67, 78
—— Robert, 82
Linaker, Henry, 52 *n.*
Liscard [Lisket], 62 *n.*, 68 *n.*
Litherland, Christian, 63
—— Jo., 65 *n.*; John, 19, 63, 66
Little Neston. *See* Neston, Little
Littler, Daniel, 67
—— John, 67, 69 *n.*
—— Mary, 67
—— Samuel, 17
Liverpool, 44 *n.*, 56, 65 *n.*, 68 *n.*, 75,* 84, 89
—— Kingslake Street, 30
—— Rector of, 12
—— St. Nicholas' Chapel, 8
London, 31 *n.*
—— The Angel, St. Paul's Churchyard, 36
Longford, 71 *n.*
Loughborough, 17
Lowe [Low], Abigail, 71
—— George, 68 *n.*
—— Mary, 68 *n.*
Lugore, John, 19
Lunt, Edmund, 65 *n.*
—— Ellen, 65 *n.*
Lydgate, co. York, 65 *n.*
Lydiate, co. Lanc., 65 *n.*
Lymington, Hants., 80
Lyon, Edmund, 44 *n.*
—— Joseph, 20
Lytham, co. Lanc., 12, 38

MACAULEY, Catherine, 32 *n.*
—— Catherine Sophia, 32 *n.*
—— Dr., 32 *n.*
Macklin, Gerratt, 65; Gerrard, 69 *n.**
—— Mary Roberts, 32 *n.*
—— Thomas, 32 *n.**, 33 *n.**, 69 *n.*, 74 *n.*
Maddocke [Madocke], Robert, 78
—— William, 74 *n.*
Maddrell, Robert, 69 *n.*
Mader, William, 78
Maiklin. *See* Macklin
Mainwaring [Manwaring], George, 53 *n.*, 55, 55 *n.*
—— (Sir) Randall, 57 *n.*
Male, William, 76
Malta, Surrender of, 81
Manchester, 8
Mandeville, Arms of, 38

March, Elizabeth, 89
—— William, 89
Mares, The, 26
Marled field, 27
Martinique, 80
Massey, Mascy, Massay, Masse, Massie, Massy, Massye, Agnes, 48, 62, 67
—— Alice, 46, 49*, 50, 88*
—— Alicia, 52, 63
—— Anna, 48*, 49, 51, 58
—— Anne, 47, 54 *n.**, 68*, 74, 89, 90
—— Catherine, 48*, 49, 50, 51*, 52, 56, 57
—— Charles, 56, 57, 58, 60
—— Christian, 48
—— David, 47, 50, 51, 77
—— Dorothie, 51, 54, 54 *n.**
—— Edward, 38, 53 *n.*, 55, 62*, 63*, 64, 64 *n.*, 68*, 79
—— Eleanor, 46 *n.*, 47, 49*, 50*
—— Elizabeth, 48, 49, 51, 54, 57, 58, 67*, 88, 90*
—— Geffrey, 48; Jeffrey, 49
—— George, 50, 53, 53 *n.*, 54, 54 *n.*, 56*, 67, 70, 74, 75, 77, 82, 90*
—— Hannah, 89
—— Herbert, 58, 59
—— Hugh, 47, 48
—— James, 54 *n.**
—— Jane, 47*, 48, 49*, 51
—— Jeffrey, 49; Geffrey, 48
—— [Jo?], 49
—— John, 39*, 47*, 48*, 51*, 53 *n.**, 54, 54 *n.*, 55*, 55 *n.*, 84, 88*, 90*, 91
—— John de, of Tatton, 9
—— (Sir) John, of Podynton, 40; Arms, 39
—— (Sir) John, of Tatton, 40
—— John Richard, 54 *n.*
—— John Stanley, 36
—— Katherine, 62, 71 *n.*, 85
—— Ladie, 58
—— Margaret, 47, 49, 70, 74, 83, 88, 89
—— Margerie, 49
—— Maria, 56, 90
—— Martha, 89
—— Mary, 53 *n.**, 54 *n.**, 88, 89*, 90, 91
—— Mr., 79
—— Ralph, 85, 90
—— Rebekka, 88
—— Richard, 38, 50, 54 *n.**, 57, 62, 64 *n.*, 68*, 88*, 89*
—— Robert, 47*, 48*, 76
Massey, &c., Rowland, 51*
—— Thomas, 47, 49*, 50, 53, 53 *n.*, 83, 84*, 89*
—— William, 23, 36, 41, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 53 *n.**, 55*, 55 *n.*, 56*, 57*, 58*, 58 *n.*, 59, 60, 62, 64 *n.*, 67*, 68*, 70, 70 *n.*, 71, 71 *n.**, 75, 88, 89*, 90
Massey, Arms of, 13, 37, 38, 39
—— of Puddington, Seal, 64 *n.*
Massey of Puddington, 36
Mawdesley, Thomas, 19
Mawrie, Rogers, 77
Me (?), Robert, 91
Mealer, Ann, 66 *n.*
—— John, 78
—— Margery, 66 *n.*
—— William, 79
Meolse [Meales, Mealles, Meals, Melse, Melts, Meoles, Meols, Meoolse, Mieles, Moeles, Moueles], Alice, 48, 50, 51, 52
—— Anne, 49*, 50
—— Catherine, 48, 50, 56
—— Cecilia, 59
—— Elizabeth, 48, 52, 56, 88*
—— Ellen, 49, 50, 59, 60*, 63
—— Gyll, 47
—— Hannah, 74
—— Henry, 47, 65 *n.*
—— Jane, 47, 49, 50, 59, 60; Jhane, 63
—— Johanna, 49*
—— John, 44, 47*, 48*, 49*, 50*, 51, 56*, 58*, 59*, 60*, 61, 63*, 69 *n.*, 70, 72, 74, 77, 78, 85, 88*
—— Joseph, 74
—— Kathren, 85
—— Margaret, 58, 59, 63
—— Mary, 61, 63, 64
—— Richard, 47, 50*, 51, 52*
—— Robert, 47*, 49*, 50*, 51, 59, 76
—— Sarah, 72, 75
—— Samuel, 72*, 73*, 74*
—— Thomas, 47*, 51, 56, 59*, 63*, 64, 73
—— William, 47*, 58, 60, 73*
Mere, George, 92
Mersey, River, 41
Mickle Trafford, 44 *n.*
Miles, Willms Baylie, 61
Mill at Burton, 23, 25, 58
Mill Field, 26
Mill Nook, 25
Milton Green, 53, 55
Minshall, William, 78
Mollington, 55 *n.*
Molyneux, Jane, 55

Molyneux, Lord, 70 *n.*
—— (Hon.) Richard, 70 *n.*
Monelye, William, 52 *n.*
Montgomeryshire [Mungmerysh.], 55
Monumental Inscriptions at Burton, 8, 11, 29, 43 *et seq.*
Moor, co. Flint, 74 *n.*
Moor, Katrien, 69 *n.*
Moores, Alice, 52
—— Catherine, 52
—— Margaret, 47
—— Thomas, 47, 52*
—— William, 68*
Moors, John, 16
Moran, John, 90
Mores, Robert, 76
—— Widow, 78
—— William, 78, 79
Morfitt, John, 10
Morgell, Elizabeth, 71 *n.*
Morrell, (Rev.) Patrick F. A., 20, 42
Morres, Thomas, 76
—— Widow, 78
Morris, (Rev.) Alfred, 29 *n.*
Mort, Alice, 64 *n.*
Morton, 86 *n.*
—— Dorothy, 75
—— John, 75
Mostyn, 41
Mountsorell, John de, 19
Mudhouse Wood, 26
Mullenyx. *See* Molyneux
Mungmerysh. [co. Montgomery], 55
Munster, 23 *n.*
Myerscoughe, 54 *n.**
Myra, St. Nicholas, Bishop of, 8

NANTWICH, St. Nicholas' Chapel, 8
Nelston, Patrico, 77
Nesse, 18, 52 *n.*
Ness Head, 21, 25
Nesset Common, 22, 25
Nesset Hey, 22, 25
Neston, 4, 18, 22, 33 *n.*, 42, 43, 44 *n.*, 59*, 70, 72 *n.*, 74*, 75, 81, 84 *n.**, 86, 87
—— Church, 52 *n.*, 53 *n.*
—— Churchyard, 13 *n.*, 44 *n.*
—— Great, 32 *n.*, 43 *n.**, 44 *n.**, 65 *n.*, 68 *n.**, 86
—— Little, 43 *n.*, 52 *n.*, 53 *n.*, 70, 74 *n.*, 84*, 85*, 86*
—— Parish Registers, 33; Extracts, 82–87; Transcripts at Chester, 87
Nevitt, Elizabeth, 89
—— John, 89
—— Margaret, 89
—— Samuel, 89
—— Thomas, 88
Nevitt, William, 89*
Newchurch (Culcheth), 28
Newchurch in Rossendale, St. Nicholas' Chapel, 8
Newell, Kathern, 66. *See also* Kneuell
Newhagh, William de, 19*
Newhall Farm, 32 *n.*
Newlands Manor, 80
Nicolas, Sir Harris, 28
Norcotte, William, 90
Northwich, Hundred of, 9
Norwich, 60 *n.*

OKES, John, 54 *n.*
Oliver, James, 75
—— Mary, 75
—— Robert, 75*
—— William, 75
Oliverson, Thomas, 74 *n.*
Ormskirk [Ormschurch], 52*
Orrett, Elizabeth, 68 *n.**
—— Stanley, 68 *n.**, 72 *n.**
Ortion Medows, 26*
Ortion Priestway, 26
Owen [Owyn], Anne, 53 *n.*
—— John, 65 *n.**
—— Thomas, 78
Owler Hey, 27
Ownsley, Randle, 58 *n.*
Oxford, Theatre in, 36
Oxon [Oxton], 65 *n.*
—— Sherlocks of, 28

PAINE, A. H., 20
Paisley, 15
Palliser, Alice, 66 *n.*
—— Mr. [——], 38
—— William, 64 *n.**, 66 *n.**
Parish Registers, 20; Extracts—Burton, 46–76; Neston, 82–87; Shotwick, 87–91
Parker, Mary, 44 *n.*
Parkgate, 89
Parry, E——, 20
—— Mrs., 71 *n.*
—— Samuel, 72 *n.*
Parsivall. *See* Persevall
Patara, 8
Patten, Gordon Peter Bold, 32 *n.*
—— John Wilson, Baron Winmarleigh, 31
—— Mary, 29, 31
—— Robert, 32 *n.*
—— Thomas, 29, 31, 32 *n.**, 33 *n.*
—— William, 31
Patten-Wilson, Arms, 33; Pedigree, 34
Peerse, Robert, 38

Peerses, Robert, 64 *n.*
Pemberton, Anne, 47
—— Hannah, 88
Peninsular War, 81
Penny, Benjamin, 20
Penruddocke, Edward, 53 *n.**, 54 *n.**
—— George, 54 *n.*
—— Mary, 53 *n.**, 54 *n.*
Percival, W., 32 *n.*
Persevall [Parsevall], Katheren, 57 *n.**
—— Thomas, 56, 57 *n.*
Pickance [Pickavance, Pekance], Alice, 43*, 66
—— Anne, 43, 75
—— Catharine, 66, 69 *n.*; Katherine, 63, 69
—— Daniel, 63
—— Dorothy, 63, 64 *n.*, 67
—— Eliza, 43, 66 *n.*
—— Elizabeth, 43*, 66, 66 *n.*, 69, 73, 75, 76
—— Ester [Easter], 66, 66 *n.*, 70; Hester, 66 *n.*
—— Hannah, 65, 66 *n.**
—— Hester, 66 *n.*
—— John, 10, 43*, 63, 64 *n.*, 66, 66 *n.*, 67*, 68*, 69*, 69 *n.*, 73*, 74, 75*, 76*
—— Katherine, 63, 69; Catharine, 66, 69 *n.*
—— Samuel, 43, 65*, 66*, 66 *n.*
—— Thomas, 43, 66 *n.*
—— William, 62 *n.*, 63*, 64, 64 *n.*, 67*, 74
Picke, Robert, 52 *n.*
Pickerton's pillow croft, 26
Pilkington, Lieut.-Col. John, 42
Piper lane croft, 26
Pitt, M——, 36
Place Names, 24
Plague, The, 59 *n.*
Platt, Richard, 52 *n.*
Plessington, John, 64 *n.*
Poictiers, 28
Poole, Thomas, 72 *n.*
Portingale, Peter the, 48
Potter, Andrew, 74 *n.**
—— Anne, 74 *n.*
Potts, F. A., 20
Powys Castle, 71 *n.*
—— Duke of, 71 *n.*
Prenton, William, 85 *n.*
Prescott, co. Lancs., 89
Preston, 41
Prestwick ["Aunte"], 54 *n.*
Price, Elizabeth, 89
—— J., 20
—— Robert, 89
Prichett, Katherine, 65 *n.*
—— Thomas, 65 *n.**
Priestway, Priestway and Bottom, and Priestway and Pingle, 26
Prigg, William, 16
Prince, Sir Samuel, 36
Pritchard. *See* Prichett
Provin Allens, 27
Puckle, Captain, 60 *n.*
Puddington [Podyngton, Podynton, Potitone, Pottington, Pudington], 4, 44 *n.*, 52, 53, 53 *n.**, 54*, 54 *n.*, 55*, 55 *n.*, 56*, 57*, 58*, 59, 60, 62*, 62 *n.*, 63*, 64, 64 *n.**, 65, 66*, 66 *n.**, 67*, 68*, 69, 70, 70 *n.**, 74, 76, 77*, 79, 81
—— Acreage of, 5
—— and Burton boundary, 26
—— in Domesday, 5; Etymology of, 25; Field Names, 26
—— Hall, 41; New Hall, 36; Old Hall, 12 *n.*, 36, 38
—— Hearth Taxes, 77, 79
—— Inhabitants of, in anno 1545, 76
—— Inscribed Stones at, 21
—— Subsidy Rolls, 76, 77
—— Tithes, 41, 42
Pulford, 65 *n.*

RABY, 16, 84 *n.*
Radley, Thomas, 77
Registers. *See* Parish Registers
Richards, Thomas, 87
Richardson, Elizabeth, 88
—— William, 54 *n.**
Ridgate, Alice, 51
—— Peter, 51
Ridley, Jane, 71 *n.*
—— Thomas, 71 *n.**
Risedon, Hundred of, 5
Road Making, Early, 3
Roberts, Kidwalider ap, 58 *n.*
Robin, John, 56 *n.*
—— William, 78
Robins, Elizabeth, 49
Robinson [Robynson], Anna, 48
—— Elizabeth, 65 *n.*
—— Henry, 68 *n.**
—— Jeffrey, 48
—— John, 10, 77*, 82
—— Rice, 76
—— Thomas, 65 *n.*, 71, 76
Robyns, Elizabeth, 49
Rock House and Ferry, 68 *n.*
Rodney, Admiral, 80
Rowton Moor, Battle of, 61
Rudhall, Abr., 17
Rutland, Earl of, 3

Rye, Walter, 28 *n.*
Ryeland Hey, 26
Rylands, J. Paul, 6 *n.*, 39 *n.*

St. Asaph, 35
St. Augustine, 35
St. John, Lady, 64 *n.*
Salvin, William, 12
Saughall [Saugan, Saughold], 52 *n.*, 55 *n.*, 58 *n.*, 69 *n.*, 87, 88
Saughall, Great, 55 *n.*, 88*, 89*, 90, 92
Saughall-Massie [Saugham Massee], 68 *n.*
Savage, Darcy, 86*
—— Elizabeth, 85
—— Thomas, 85, 86
Savensby, Alexander de, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, 18
Scachell, Simon de, 19
Scholes, Memorial Brass, 15
—— William, 15
School, Bishop Wilson's, 30
Scrope, Arms of, 40
Scrope *v.* Grosvenor, Armorial Controversy, 40
Sealand, 15
Sefton, John, 76, 77
Shakerley, (Sir) Geffery, 64 *n.**
Sharpe, Thomas, 58 *n.*, 78
Shawe, William, 19
Sherlock [Shirlock, Shurlock], Alice, 28
—— Henry, 82
—— Richard, 28, 33 *n.*
—— Susan, 86
—— William, 52 *n.*, 86
Sherlock family of Oxton, 28
Ships and Shipping, 9–22; "Canada," 80; "Diamond," 64 *n.*; "Providence," 62 *n.*; "Ville de Paris," 80
Shotwick, 42, 48 *n.*, 53 *n.*, 87*, 88*, 89*, 90*, 91*, 92
—— Church, 53 *n.*
—— Parish Registers, 33; Extracts, 87–89; Transcripts at Chester, Extracts, 89–91
—— Park, 53 *n.*, 55, 55 *n.*, 89*
Shrewsbury, 35
—— Charles, Duke of, 70 *n.*
Shuger, Suger, Suggar, Frances, 79*
—— Robeard, 68
Skeat, 24
Skelton, Julian, 64 *n.*
Sladen, C. A., 20
Sligo [Sleigo], Ireland, 86
Smith [Smyth, Smythe], Alice, 68 *n.*
—— Cicely, 68
Smith, Elizabeth, 70, 72 *n.*
—— George, 68 *n.*
—— Hannah, 75
—— Hugone, 76
—— James, 57 *n.*
—— John, 76, 78, 79
—— Jonathan, 75*
—— Joseph, 17
—— Martha, 88
—— Randall, 57 *n.*
—— Robert, 76
—— Sisley, 72 *n.*
—— Thomas, 55 *n.**, 57, 65, 68, 68 *n.*, 72 *n.*, 78
Smoke penny, 42
Sodor and Man, Thomas Wilson, D.D., Bishop of, 11, 27, 28, 29*, 32, 32 *n.*, 34, 35. 43, 69 *n.*
Solvin. *See* Salvin
Somerford, 71 *n.*
Southerne, James, 65 *n.*
—— Katherine, 65 *n.*
Speke, 41
Spencer, Rado, 76
—— Sarah, 74
Spittle, 68 *n.*
Stafford, James, 20
Staffordshire, 75
—— Heralds' Visitation of, 6 *n.*
Stanley, Anne, 71 *n.*
—— John, 12, 36, 70 *n.*
—— (Sir) John Stanley Massey, Bart., 12
—— Katherine, 71 *n.**
—— (Lady) Mary, 12*
—— (Sir) Rowland, 70 *n.*, 71 *n.**
—— Thomas, 36, 70 *n.**, (Sir Thomas) 24
—— (Sir) Thomas Stanley Massey, 12, 27, 37
—— William, 36, 70 *n.**, (Sir Wm.) 36, 64 *n.*
Stanley and Clifton, impaled Arms of, 12 *n.*
Stanley and Massey, impaled Arms of, 38
Stanley Estates, 36, 37
Stanley-Errington, Sir John Stanley Massey, Bart., 37
Stanley-Massey-Stanley, Sir John, 38. *See* Derby, Earls of
Stanley of Hooton, Arms of, 37
Stanny Hooks, 27
Statum, Ralph de, 39
Steward, C. H., 20
Stoak [Stoke], 61 *n.*, 81
Stockton, 87
Stoke Newington, 31
Storeton, 74 *n.*

Street, John, 74 *n.*
Stretton, 6 *n.*
Sturdych, John, D.D., 49
Styan, H. E., 11
Subsidy Rolls, 76, 77
Suddon, Anna, 90
—— John, 90
Suger [Shuger, Suggar], Frances, 79*
——Robeard, 68
Sundial, 17
Surnames, Old Local, 27
Swetnam, (Sir) Robert, 49
Symons, John, 73 *n.*

TALACRE, 41
Talavera, Battle of, 81
Tamberlain, James, 75
—— Rev. Mr., 75*
Tarvin, 88
Tarvyn, Catherine, 56
—— Edward, 56
Tattenhall, 44 *n.*
Tatton, 9, 39, 40
—— Dorothy, 54 *n.*
—— (Sir) John Massey of, 40
—— Robert, 54 *n.*
Taylor [Tealeor, Telyar, Teuleor], Ann, 82
—— Canon, 24
—— John, 53 *n.*, 78*; John, & Co., 17
—— Thomas, 78
—— William, 78
Tebbot, Edmund, 19
Techett, Catherine, 48
—— William, 48
Telleck, Margaret, 51
Tellett [Telliet], Margaret, 87
—— Thomas, 87
—— William, 68 *n.*
Thomas, Francis, 58 *n.*
Thornton [Thorntonne, Thorton], 53 *n.*, 58 *n.*, 85*
Thornton Hough, 61, 65 *n.*, 85 *n.*, 87
Thurstaston[Thurstington], 22*, 52 *n.*, 59
Tomkinson, Sarah, 73 *n.**
Tomlinson, William, 73 *n.*
Totty, Elizabeth, 88
—— Henry, 88
—— Robert, 58
Towerson, Gabriel, 35
Trafford, Alice, 49, 51
—— Anna, 50
—— Dorothie, 54 *n.*
—— Henry, 19, 48, 59*, 61*
—— Lettitia, 61*
—— Matthew, 48
—— Thomas, 49, 50*, 59*, 90
Trafford, William, 50*
Tranmore, 68 *n.*
Travelling in the Seventeenth Century, Mode of, 4
Travers, James, 60 *n.*
Trigg, William, 16 *n.*
Turner, Rev. Canon, of Neston, 42
Two Mills, 27
Tyldesley, Anne, 54 *n.*
—— Edward, 54 *n.*
—— Mary, 54 *n.*
—— Richard, 54 *n.*
—— Thomas, 54 *n.*
—— Thurstane, 54 *n.**
—— William, 54 *n.**

ULSTER, 23 *n.*
Upperton, Charles Stuart, 20, 46
—— Edith Stuart, 46
—— Elizabeth, 46
Ursull, Ellen, 60

VENABLES, John, 55 *n.**
Vernon, Robert, 72 *n.*
Visitation, Bishop Cotes', 9; Heralds', 6 *n.*, 39

WAITE, Isabella, 87
—— James A., 42
—— Thomas, 87
Walbrook, 32 *n.*
—— St. Stephen's Church, 31, 32 *n.*
Wales, Parliamentary Army enter, 61
Wall, Roger, 19*
Walls, Elizabeth, 44
Walsh, Edward, 87
Wansbrough, Rev. F. R., Rector of Shotwick, 42
Warford, 71 *n.*
Waring, William, 71 *n.*
Warminsham, Warmynsham, Dorothy, 85
—— John, 68 *n.*
Warrington, 29 *n.*, 33 *n.**, 73 *n.**
—— Thomas, 76
Washington, Matthew, 75
—— Rebecca, 46
—— Robert, 19; (Rev.) Robert, 46, 75*
Watering Pits, 26
Watmough, Benjamin, 88
Watsmouth, Sir Bryan, 47
—— Hannah, 88
Watte, Arald, 56
Watts, Elizabeth, 15
—— Jane, 75, 76
—— Joseph Owen, 75
—— Peirce, 76
—— Thomas, 15, 75, 76

Webster, George, 90, 91
—— John, 90*
—— Margaret, 91
Weever, Richard, 19, 67
—— Thomas, 67
Welchpoole, 55
Werrall, Henry, 65 *n.**
—— Margaret, 65 *n.*
—— *See also* Worrall
Westby, Dorothy, 64 *n.*
West Kirby, 4, 22, 28, 52 *n.**, 69 *n.*, 74 *n.*
—— Closes called the "two broad hays," 74 *n.*
—— The Crofts Mellon, the Lang, and the Bank, 74 *n.*
Westminster, 31, 32 *n.**, 33 *n.*
—— St. Margaret's, 32 *n.*
Wheatley, Josiah, 44 *n.**
Whitby [Whidbye], 52 *n.*
White, Matthew, 62 *n.*
Whitehead, Margaret, 43 *n.*, 44 *n.**
—— Thomas, 55 *n.*
—— William, 81
Whitfield, Whitefild, Whytfeld, John, 55 *n.*
—— Thomas, 92*
Whitmore [Whytmore], Alice, 87
—— Blanch, 85
—— Cateryne, 82*
—— Elizabeth, 83*
—— John, 82, 83*
—— Margery, 82, 83
—— Robert, 82, 83
—— William, 82*, 85, 87
Whitney [Whytney], co. Oxon., 55
Whittingham, John, 54 *n.*
Whittle, Henry, 58 *n.*
Wilcocke, Thomas, 57 *n.*
Wilkes, John, 32 *n.**
Willaston [Willison], 13 *n.*, 25, 32 *n.*, 33, 33 *n.*, 53 *n.*, 67*, 69 *n.*, 72 *n.*, 86, 86 *n.**
—— The three Nookes in, 28
Williams, Candrik, 91
—— Edward, 57 *n.*
—— John, 44 *n.*
—— Mary, 73 *n.*, 91
—— Persevall, 57 *n.*
—— Richard, 80
—— Sarah, 57 *n.*
Williamson, Katherin, 65 *n.*
—— Richard, 65 *n.*
Wills (and dates of probate)—Ashenhurst, Fras., 1750, 75 *n.* Bainbridge, John (Admon.), 1729, 73 *n.*; Thos., 1726, 72 *n.* Carter, John, 1587, 92. Cottingham, Robt., 1606, 52 *n.* Dunsterville, Lucy, 1650, 60 *n.* Edge, Jno., 1779, 43 *n.* Mainwaring, Geo. (Invy.), 1608, 55 *n.* Massey, Massie, Dorothy, 1605, 54 *n.*; Edward, 1674, 64 *n.*; Geo., 1600, 53 *n.*; Jno., 1616, 55 *n.*; Wm., 1721, 70 *n.* Percival, Thos., 1619, 57 *n.* Pickance, Hannah, 1684, 66 *n.*; Jno., 1701, 69 *n.*; Saml., 1681, 66 *n.*; Wm., 1673, 64 *n.* Smith, Geo., 1704, 68 *n.* Wilson, Benjn., 1744, 74 *n.*; Elizabeth, 1676, 65 *n.*; Hugh (Invy.), 1626, 85 *n.*; John, 1614, 84 *n.*, 1718, 71 *n.*, 72 *n.*; Joseph, 1739, 74 *n.*; Margt. (Invy.), 1618, 56 *n.*; Nathl., 1702, 69 *n.*; Oliver, 1631, 58 *n.*; Richard, 1591, 51 *n.*; Roger, 1676, 64 *n.*; Thomas, 1661, 62 *n.*, 1784, 31 *n.*; Wm., 1671, 33 *n.*, 86 *n.*
Wilson [Willson, Wylson], Abigail, 71
—— Alice, 11, 28, 58 *n.**, 69 *n.**, 70, 76
—— Alicia, 63
—— Annah, 62
—— Anne, 27 *n.*, 52 *n.*, 66, 68 *n.*, 69 *n.**, 74 *n.*, 75*, 85
—— Arms of, 33, 33 *n.*; Pedigree, 32, 81; Seal, 74 *n.*
—— Benjamin, 11, 62, 69, 69 *n.*, 70, 74 *n.*, 91
—— Blanche, 68 *n.*, 82, 87
—— Catherine, 68 *n.*; Katherine, 70
—— Christopher, 85
—— Cicillye, 85
—— Daniel, 70 *n.*, 72 *n.**, 73*
—— Elizabeth, 33 *n.*, 59, 62, 62 *n.*, 63*, 64 *n.**, 65, 65 *n.**, 67, 70*, 71 *n.*, 72 *n.**, 73, 74, 74 *n.**, 86 *n.*
—— Ellen, 67, 83*, 84, 84 *n.*, 85
—— Ellenor, 58, 59, 60, 61
—— Esther, 72 *n.*, 74*
—— Hannah, 59, 62 *n.**, 66 *n.*
—— Hellena, 60
—— Hugh, 84 *n.**, 85, 85 *n.*
—— James, 11, 61, 67*, 72 *n.*
—— Jane, 61, 83
—— Jeremiah, 70
—— John, 33 *n.*, 58*, 63, 65 *n.*, 67*, 68 *n.*, 70*, 71, 71 *n.*, 72 *n.**, 73*, 74, 75, 76, 83*, 84*, 84 *n.**, 86 *n.*
—— Jonathan, 33 *n.**, 46, 62, 63*, 65*, 67, 70*, 71 *n.*, 74, 74 *n.*, 75*, 78, 85, 86 *n.*
—— Joseph, 11, 17, 44, 61, 65 *n.*, 66, 69 *n.**, 71, 74, 74 *n.*
—— Lydia, 61
—— Margaret, 51, 56, 56 *n.*, 62 *n.*, 72 *n.**, 83, 84, 84 *n.**

Wilson, Maria, 59
—— Mary, 11, 29, 31, 52 *n.*, 61, 62, 63*, 67*, 68 *n.*, 69 *n.**, 71, 74 *n.*, 91
—— Nathaniel, 11, 16, 27, 32, 33 *n.*, 34, 61*, 62, 63*, 65 *n.*, 66, 67, 69, 69 *n.**, 70, 78, 85
—— Obadiah, 68 *n.*
—— Oliver, 56, 58*, 58 *n.*
—— Patrick, 48
—— Peter, 34, 47
—— Phoebe, 73
—— Richard, 51 *n.*, 52 *n.*, 62 *n.*
—— Robert, 62 *n.**, 68 *n.*, 82, 87
—— Roger, 59*, 60*, 61*, 63*, 64, 64 *n.*, 65 *n.*, 78
—— Samuel, 11, 43, 61, 66*, 67*, 69 *n.**, 71, 72, 72 *n.**
—— Sarah, 11, 61, 65
—— Sisley, 33 *n.*, 62, 68, 69, 72 *n.*, 86 *n.*
—— Susanna, 44, 67, 72
—— Thomas, 47, 50, 58 *n.*, 62*, 62 *n.*, 63*, 65, 68 *n.*, 69 *n.*, 72 *n.**; Bishop Thomas Wilson, D.D., 11, 27, 28, 29*, 32, 32 *n.*, 34*, 35, 43, 69 *n.*; his Bible, 36; his Library, 35; his School, 25, 30; Thomas Wilson, D.D. (son of Bishop Wilson), 29*, 31, 31 *n.*, 32 *n.*, 33 *n.*
—— Widow, 79
—— William, 16, 17, 33, 34, 51, 53, 62 *n.*, 63, 70*, 71, 72 *n.**, 84, 85*, 86, 86 *n.*
Wilson Family of Leeds, 34
Winnington [Wynnington], Richard de, 9
Winstanley [Wynstanley], Elizabeth, 83
Winwick, 28*, 29
Wirral, Early condition of, 1
—— Old Halls of, 36 *n.*
—— Subsidy Roll, 16, 25, 77, 79
—— The Old Flour Mills of, 23
—— Villages of, 3
Wison, Sarah Byrd, 73
Withenshaw, 54 *n.*
Withyn way, 26
Wood, Franc., 91
Woodbank [Wodbanke], 55 *n.*, 89*, 92
Woodbankfield [Wodbankfield], 92
Woodchurch, 32 *n.**
Woods, Catherine, 69
—— Cecilia, 59
—— Daniel, 78
—— Ellen, 65 *n.*
—— Jane, 65 *n.*
—— Mary, 46, 66 *n.**
—— Robert, 59, 69, 78
—— Thomas, 64 *n.*, 65 *n.*, 66 *n.**
—— William, 46
Worcester, 87
Worrall [Worrold], Alice, 87
—— Hugh, 65 *n.*
—— John, 85 *n.*
—— Sarah, 68 *n.*
—— *See also* Werrall
Wright, Jane, 58 *n.*
Wykersley, Thomas, 19
Wynne, Thomas, 71 *n.*
Wynnington, Richard de, 9
Wynstanley, Elizabeth, 83

YATES, Jane, 74
—— Richard, 74
—— Thomas, 90
York, 12
Young, Margaret, 84

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